



1997-1998 Waste Programs Environmental Justice Accomplishments Report

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Note From the Acting Assistant Administrator

I am pleased to once again have the opportunity to share with the public the many efforts of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) to address environmental justice. This report entitled, "1997-1998 Waste Programs Environmental Justice Accomplishments Report" documents the activities that demonstrate OSWER's commitment to address comprehensively the environmental justice concerns and related quality-of-life challenges which low-income and minority communities face.

In the six years since OSWER initiated its Environmental Justice Action Agenda, we have made tremendous gains in dealing with a complex set of issues. Training and outreach have spread throughout the EPA regions and on to our state, local and community-based partners in environmental protection. We have used our staff and other resources in ever more creative ways to promote the ideas of meaningful community involvement, and stakeholder capacity building.. Environmental Justice is now intricately intertwined with all of efforts and commitments. Our collective efforts have ensured that Environmental Justice will continue to be a cornerstone of how the Agency does business in the present and the future.

Timothy Fields, Jr.
Assistant Administrator
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response

About This Report

On April 25, 1994, the Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) issued the “OSWER Environmental Justice Task Force Draft Final Report.” As a result of this report, a major effort was undertaken in EPA’s waste programs to address environmental justice concerns. In June 1994, EPA’s waste programs developed detailed plans to implement the recommendations of the Task Force Draft Report. Simultaneously, OSWER solicited comments from the stakeholders on the Task Force Draft Report, and Headquarters and the Regions began implementing the activities described in the plans. As comments on the Task Force Draft Report were received, OSWER worked to address them in a final report, the “OSWER Environmental Justice Action Agenda.” Simultaneously, with the release of the Action Agenda, OSWER released its first Waste Programs Environmental Justice Accomplishments Report.

This, the third Waste Programs Environmental Justice Accomplishments Report updates and documents the progress made throughout the Agency waste programs at the headquarters and regional levels in fiscal years 1997 and 1998. It is divided into two sections: Cross-cutting Issues, which presents initiatives in areas that have implications for all waste programs, and Program-specific Issues, which presents initiatives that focus on a particular waste program. Individual entries in each section generally reflect actions taken since September 1996.

The data gathered for this Report show the great extent to which environmental justice concerns have become institutionalized throughout all of the waste programs and in their decision-making processes.

Acronym List

ADEC	Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
ADEQ	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
ARCS	Alternative Remedial Contracting Strategy
ARTD	Air, RCRA, and Toxics Division
ASTSWMO	Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials
ATG	Allied Technology Group
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CAB	Community Advisory Board
CAG	Community Advisory Group
CBEP	Community Based Environmental Protection
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CDC	People of Color and Disenfranchised Communities
CDF	Confined Disposal Facilities
CEC	Community Environmental Committee
CEQ	Council of Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CERCLIS	CERCLA Information System
CFEJ	Citizens for Environmental Justice
CMP	Comprehensive Monitoring Plan
COC	Communities of Concern
CRC	Community Relations Coordinator
CTUIR	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation
DOD	Department of Defense
DOE	Department of Energy
DOJ	Department of Justice
DPR	Department of Pesticide Regulation
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
EDA	Economic Development Administration
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EPCRA	Emergency Planning, Community Right-To-Know Act
ERB	Emergency Response Branch
ERCS	Emergency Response Cleanup Services
ERRD	Environmental Response and Remedial Division
ERRS	Emergency and Rapid Response Services
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FFB	Federal Facilities Branch
FFERDC	Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee
FFRRO	Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Geographic Positioning System
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials
HBCUs	Historically Black Colleges and Universities
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services
HRS	Hazard Ranking System
HSRC	Hazardous Substance Research Center

HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
IAG	Interagency Agreement
IIIRM	International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
ITCA	Inter Tribal Council of Arizona
ITEC	Inter-Tribal Environmental Council
ITEP	Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals
ITF	Interagency Task Force
LLRW	Low-level Radioactive Waste
LUST	Leaking Underground Storage Tank
MDC	Metropolitan District Commission
MDA	Maryland Department of Agriculture
MDE	Maryland Department of the Environment
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
MSWLF	Municipal Solid Waste Landfill
MTERT	Minnesota Environmental Response Team
MWTP	Minority Worker Training Program
NAACP	National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
NAUP	Neighborhoods Against Urban Pollution
NCAI	National Congress of American Indians
NEIC	National Enforcement Investigations Center
NEJAC	National Environmental Justice Advisory Council
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIEHS	National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
NJDEP	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
NJDEPE	New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy
NOFA	Notice of Funds Availability
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NPL	National Priorities List
NTEC	National Tribal Environmental Council
NTIS	National Technical Information Service
OCEPP	Office of Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention
OERR	Office of Emergency and Remedial Response
OGC	Office of General Counsel
OPA	Oil Pollution Act
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator
OSW	Office of Solid Waste
OSWER	Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
OUST	Office of Underground Storage Tanks
OWCM	Office of Waste and Chemicals Management
PAHs	Polyaromatic Hydrocarbons
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyl
PNAs	Polynuclear Aromatic Compounds
POEP	Pueblo Office of Environmental Protection
PRHD	Puerto Rico Housing Department
PRP	Potentially-Responsible Parties
RAB	Restoration Advisory Board
RAC	Remedial Action Contract
RBCA	Risk-Based Corrective Action

RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RDT	Regional Decision Team
RIDOT	Rhode Island Department of Transportation
ROC	Regional Oversight Contract
RPM	Remedial Project Manager
RRB	Remedial Response Branch
SACM	Superfund Accelerated Cleanup Model
SBA	Small Business Administration
SBE	Small Business Enterprise
SBIC	Small Business Investment Company
SDB	Small Disadvantaged Business
SEDESOL	Mexican Equivalent of U.S. EPA
SEE	Senior Environmental Employee
SEP	Supplemental Environmental Projects
SERC	State Emergency Response Commission
SI	Site Investigation
SNEEJ	Southwest Network for Economic and Environmental Justice
SOW	Scope of Work
SPA	State Program Approval
SPC	Science Policy Council
SPCC	Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure
SRPB/BBS	State and Regional Programs Branch Bulletin Board System
SSAB	Site-Specific Advisory Board
START	Superfund Technical and Response Team
Super JTI	Superfund Job Training Initiative
TAB	Technical Assistance Branch
TAG	Technical Assistance Grant
TOSC	Technical Outreach Support Centers
TRI	Toxics Release Inventory
UCAB	Unified Community Advisory Board
UIC	Underground Injection Control
ULR	Urban Land Redevelopment
USCOE	U.S. Corps of Engineers
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
UST	Underground Storage Tank
USTPO	UST Program Office
VADEQ	Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
VDACS	Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
WMD	Waste Management Division
WPS	Worker Protection Standard
XRF	X-Ray Fluorescence

Waste Programs
Environmental Justice

Cross-Cutting Issues

Health, Cumulative Risk, Synergistic Effects, and Multiple Pathways

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Support Agency-wide efforts to develop scientifically valid statistics for measuring cumulative risks	3
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Topic Area: Health, Cumulative Risk, Synergistic Effects, and Multiple Pathways

Action Item

Support Agency-wide efforts to develop scientifically valid statistics for measuring cumulative risks

Region 2

Region 2 co-chaired the Risk Assessment Guidance for Superfund Probabilistic/Uncertainty Workgroup to better characterize potential risks from exposures to chemicals at Superfund sites. The guidance will provide project managers with variability and uncertainty information for making risk-related decisions at specific sites.

Region 2 co-chaired the Risk Assessment Guidance for Superfund (RAGS) Administrative Reforms Workgroup, which is revising guidance in the following areas: public involvement, land use, background, and probabilistic/uncertainty. The workgroup developed draft guidance in each of these areas with stakeholder input. Further discussions with stakeholders are planned before the workgroup completes the reforms next year.

Region 2 met with community members at several Superfund sites to discuss current and future land uses and potential exposure routes for each site. This interaction has helped ensure that site-specific risk assessments address community concerns.

Contact

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Region 7

Region 7 hired a Ph.D. toxicologist and risk assessor to provide technical support to the Superfund, water, and RCRA programs and facilitate the development and implementation of consistent and comprehensive risk assessment policies in the Region.

Region 7 is conducting blood-lead monitoring at a large site where multiple sources of lead exposure have occurred.

ARTD is coordinating an EPA grant project in St. Louis called the “University of Missouri-St. Louis/Project H.O.P.E. Community University Partnership Grant,” which provides outside environmental expertise to disadvantaged neighborhoods impacted by RCRA/CERCLA projects.

Contact

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Region 10

Region 10's risk assessment staff continue to participate in the Agency's Science Policy Steering Committee and Risk Assessment Forum projects. The Science Policy Steering Committee, with Region 10's participation, prepared the Agency's Cumulative Risk Assessment Guidance. This document focuses on protecting women, children, elderly, and other specific populations at greater risk from environmental pollutants than the average citizen.

Region 10 staff are working on a variety of Native American issues. For instance, they were invited to participate in several Native American Tribal Risk Assessment Roundtables where tribes from across the United States discussed their concerns about ensuring equity in risk assessment procedures.

Region 10 risk assessment staff also participate in special projects that address issues related to minority populations. One of these projects is a fish consumption risk assessment study on Native American populations.

Completed Milestones

- 6/97 Risk Roundtable held.
- 1/98 Risk Roundtable held.
- 4/98 Completed sample collection for the fish tissue study, "Assessment of Chemical Contaminants in Fish Consumed by Four Native American Tribes in the Columbia River Basin."

Contact

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Geographic Information Systems

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Topic Area: **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**

Action Item

Develop compatible and appropriate Agency-wide approaches to using GIS to address potential environmental justice concerns

Region 2

Region 2 is developing a GIS project for the Region's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative. This project will serve as a visual aid and resource coordination tool as well as track results. The GIS will depict where resources are concentrated and where remedial actions and emergency response dovetail in brownfields redevelopment efforts. GIS applications offer a greater understanding of a selected area's environmental, geographic, and demographic characteristics. They also increase the potential for greater Agency response to areas where data suggest a disproportionate burden of environmental pollution.

Contact

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Region 2 is developing an Environmental Justice GIS Application that supports an Interim Region 2 Policy on Identifying Environmental Justice Areas. The policy defines a five-step process for identifying and screening environmental justice areas. The process compares three factors (minority representation, low-income representation, and environmental burden) between a community of concern and one or more reference areas. A community of concern can be defined in a number of ways based on municipality, census block group, user-defined radius around a source of pollution, or a boundary drawn along physical features such as streets, streams, or railroad tracks. The demographic data can be applied to determine whether the community of concern is a potential environmental justice area.

Region 2 continues to refine the Environmental Justice GIS Application to support the Draft Interim Region 2 Policy on Identifying Environmental Justice Areas, and Region 2's Information Systems Branch is training regional staff in the use of GIS software for specific programs.

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Action Item

Using GIS to address potential environmental justice concerns

Region 4

Region 4 prepared a “Hazardous Waste Combustion Facility Environmental Justice Report” that contains a demographic analysis of the areas around each hazardous waste combustion facility in the region. Regional staff used a GIS to assess the distribution of minority and low-income populations within 0-1, 1-3, and 3-5 mile radii of each facility.

Region 4 also developed the “Region 4 Action Plan for Facilities Identified in the Hazardous Waste Combustion Facility Environmental Justice Report.” The purpose of this report is to review permitting and enforcement activities for the combustion facilities identified as having significant minority or low-income populations near them.

Region 5

During FY 1997, Region 5 developed interim guidance on a process that management and staff can use to identify potential environmental justice cases. Previously, the Superfund Division asked a group of environmental justice experts to create environmental justice profiles (basic demographics on income and percent minorities) using Landview II. However, since Region 5 adopted the interim guidance, the use of Landview II to produce environmental justice profiles has become outdated. Archview II is now being used to create environmental justice profiles that are consistent with Region 5's interim guidelines.

The Environmental Justice Coordinator for Superfund and the Program Management and Information Section have identified possible environmental justice NPL sites in CERCLIS and classified them as high or medium priority. High priority sites are those sites with an evaluation that equals or exceeds two times the state percentage for low-income and/or minority populations. Medium priority sites are those that are at or exceed the state percentages for low-income and/or minority but are less than two times the state percentages.

Completed Milestones

- FY98 Environmental justice Landview training took place.
- FY98 All Superfund sites were evaluated consistent with the June 1998 environmental justice guidelines.
- FY98 Environmental justice NPL sites were identified and placed on the Intranet.
- FY98 Sites out of compliance in environmental justice areas were identified and mapped on the Intranet.

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Region 9

Region 9 has completed its environmental justice assessment project, which involved using GIS to identify areas of potential environmental justice concern. The results are a set of environmental justice demographic maps for each of the region's four states as well as several major urban areas. The demographic maps delineate areas that have a high percentage of low-income residents or a high percentage of people of color. Region 9's environmental justice program is advocating the use of these demographic maps and supporting data to focus specific programmatic activities and initiatives on potential environmental justice areas, including regional enforcement. The data underlying the demographic maps are also useful in responding to Title VI claims.

Contact

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Action Item

Use a GIS system to help environmental justice communities map risks in their immediate community

Region 9

Region 9's Superfund program developed a GIS-based map of a large study area around the Montrose and Del Amo Superfund sites. This coverage identified TRI, LUST, NPDES, RCRA, and CERCLA facilities in the Harbor Gateway and greater Torrance area. Low-altitude, color-digitized aerial photography provided base coverage for the entire study area. Region 9 staff shared the GIS output maps and other specialized plots with the Del Amo Community Advisory Panel, Montrose/Del Amo partnership of state and local agencies, and community representatives. Future applications of the GIS coverage could include web-based or CD-ROM distribution after EPA develops standards for public access to Agency information systems.

Contact

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Region 10

Investigations of groundwater contaminated with trichloroethene are underway at the Moses Lake Superfund Site in eastern Washington where a number of low-income residents rely on private water wells for drinking water and other domestic uses. As an interim action, Region 10 is evaluating several options to provide alternative water supplies to impacted residents: bottled water, filtration treatment of well water, or water hookups to a nearby municipality. Several economic issues required analysis to support EPA's decision on alternative water supplies. For instance, Region 10 considered the fact that water rights in eastern Washington are scarce and some residents are concerned about paying higher monthly water bills if they are placed on a municipal supply. A component of Region 10's deliberations included an evaluation of the Moses Lake community to determine if it is an

environmental justice community, as defined by EPA's national guidelines for identifying environmental justice communities. This analysis was conducted prior to finding potential funds to assist residents who might be placed on municipal water supplies.

Contact

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Action Item

Conduct a pilot proactive site assessment program

Region 2

In FY 1997, Region 2 began planning for the creation of a Rapid Field Screening Team that would provide assistance to brownfields pilot and non-pilot cities. The team's goals are to identify potential removal sites, which are sites requiring further evaluation, and identifying potential brownfields. Information generated by the team will assist communities and local government in environmental response, resource allocation, and development planning.

Region 2 entered into a data management cooperative agreement with Barceloneta, Puerto Rico, in 1996 to develop an integrated facility data layer using Global Positioning System (GPS) and GIS software. This project was part of an effort to provide information necessary for a multi-media environmental analysis.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 Purchased hand-held GPS units.
- FY97 Installed a GPS base at the Puerto Rico Environmental Quality Board.
- FY97 Trained personnel to utilize the GPS hand-held units.
- FY98 Completed data dictionaries and point location procedures that are compatible with EPA's procedures.
- FY98 Made inspections at selected facilities utilizing this technology to field test procedures.
- FY98 Made inspections of all facilities within the Commonwealth and updated databases.

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Region 8

Region 8's site assessment team began studying environmental justice GIS maps prior to conducting field work in a community. The purpose is to increase the team's awareness of the community in which it will conduct an environmental assessment.

Contacts

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Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships

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Topic Area: Outreach, Communications, and Partnerships

Action Item

Conduct presentations on environmental justice to establish and maintain communication with the public

Region 2

Region 2's Environmental Justice Operating Plan (April 10, 1997) calls for region-wide and division-specific environmental justice work plans and training. Region 2's member of the Environmental Response and Remedial Division (ERRD) Regional Environmental Justice Work Group contributed to the development of the 1997 region-wide environmental justice training. In 1998, the ERRD Division Director and brownfields and environmental justice staffs delivered environmental justice training to all staff of the Emergency Response and Remedial Division and Superfund staff of the Office of Regional Counsel.

EPA incorporates environmental justice into brownfields assessment demonstration pilot activities. Applicants for these pilots must submit a community involvement and environmental justice plan. Region 2 holds a kick-off stakeholder meeting for each a pilot recipient to set the stage for on-going stakeholder participation. This meeting provides a forum for learning and sharing local brownfields information. Region 2 staff also discuss the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders, including the relevance of environmental justice and the benefits of a participatory process.

Completed Milestones

8/98-9/98 Region 2 Emergency Response and Remedial Division Environmental Justice Training for all division staff (3 sessions).

FY98 Brownfields pilot stakeholders kick-off meetings were held for: Atlantic City, Hudson County, Long Branch, Middlesex, Morris, Paterson, Niagara County, Ogdensburg, Ulster, Utica, Yonkers, and Puerto Rico Ports Authority.

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Region 4

On May 23-24, 1997, the Waste Management Division hosted the first Environmental Justice Summit held at the regional level. The summit, which was co-hosted by the Southern Organizing Committee for Economic and Social Justice (SOC), was attended by 24 leaders from the most vocal and dissatisfied community groups in Region 4. The intent of the meeting was to give the division an opportunity to hear firsthand what affected citizens and stakeholders believe are impediments to progress, pinpoint environmental justice issues that the division could address better in communities of color and low-income communities, and identify successes that the community and the division could build upon. A second

environmental justice summit, hosted by the division's environmental justice team, SOC, and Spelman College, occurred on February 6-7, 1998 and attracted more than 100 participants including representatives from numerous environmental justice groups, HUD, ATSDR, Corps of Engineers, DoD, the States of North Carolina and Georgia, Clark Atlanta University, and the Medical University of South Carolina.

Under the auspices of the division's Environmental Justice Program, the Waste Management Division established and funded the Teacher's Environmental Institute in FY 1994. The institute was co-hosted by Clark Atlanta University and was the first of its kind developed at the regional level. The institute trained 40 middle and high school teachers representing all eight Region 4 states to access and understand environmental data that they can use in developing environmental lesson plans for their students. The institute lasted approximately two weeks, and teachers who completed the program were awarded continuing education credits.

Region 4 expanded the institute concept to include three additional institutions of higher learning, which were funded in FY 1998: North Carolina State University, Murray State University, and Florida A&M University. Feedback from institute participants suggest that the concept is a tremendous success.

Completed Milestones

FY94	Under the auspices of the Division's Environmental Justice Program, the Waste Management Division established and funded the Teacher's Environmental Institute.
97-98	The Waste Management Division hosted two Environmental Justice Summits at the regional level.
FY98	Renewed funding for Teacher's Environmental Institutes.

Contact

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Region 8

Region 8's Water Program provided three days of training on capacity building to the Uintah and Ouray Reservation on October 5, 1998. Topics included Underground Injection Control, Underground Storage Tank, Drinking Water, Municipal Systems, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Systems for the tribe. The training was developed as a pilot and is being considered for continued utilization in the remaining tribal organizations.

The Drinking Water Program continues to refine the Region 8's Tribal Utility Capacity Development Program and has participated in several workshops during the reporting period. These workshops are designed to bring federal agencies and tribes together to pool resources and creatively reach the common goal of "ensuring safe, economical drinking water" for tribes. Drinking Water staff participated in an environmental justice stakeholder video conference in March 1998 to address various technical issues relating to pending Drinking Water regulations. Drinking Water staff also participated in an environmental justice citizens meeting, which environmental justice and Wyoming citizens requested.

Region 8 procured almost \$1.4 million to initiate LUST corrective actions on tribal lands in Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota. The result has been eight site assessments and/or tank removals when releases were suspected for those facilities where the owner/operators have been unable, unknown, or unwilling to undertake such activities. In addition, the Region has conducted seven sampling events to evaluate groundwater contamination on tribal lands. Some of the specific tasks associated with these corrective actions were funded through 8A contract mechanisms.

Completed Milestones

- 3/98 Participated in an environmental justice stakeholder video conference.
- 10/98 Three-day training on capacity building for the Uintah and Ouray Reservation.

Action Item

Enter into partnerships to resolve issues that do not fall exclusively under OSWER jurisdiction

Region 2

FY 1997 brownfields pilots have established task forces, coordination groups, and partnerships that identify and address issues that do not fall exclusively under OSWER jurisdiction. Examples include the Glen Cove Pilot and the link Buffalo Pilot manager who is a member of the Buffalo Urban Resources Partnership, a diverse group a broad urban environmental agenda. All of the pilots focus on economic revitalization. Staff of the Emergency Response and Remedial Division (ERRD) work closely with each pilot to address issues, such as environmental liability, tax relief, and local community concerns that fall outside OSWER jurisdiction.

Internally, the workgroups facilitated partnerships to address issues outside OSWER jurisdiction. Examples include the Community Based Environmental Protection Workgroup, the Regional Environmental Justice Workgroup and the Community Grants Program Workgroup.

New partnerships in FY 1998 include the Brownfields Interagency Work Group and brownfields job training and development pilot.

Region 2 has established a Regional Brownfields Inter-Agency Work Group, comprised of over 14 federal and state agencies, to streamline access to federal resources. The Work Group was established initially for the Region's brownfields showcase communities of Glen Cove, New York, and Trenton, New Jersey, but now works with all regional brownfields pilots and brownfields impacted communities. Region 2 is developing a web-based Brownfields Resource Manual that includes fact sheets about available community revitalization resources and how to access these resources.

Region 2's ERRD continues the following partnership activities: the brownfields pilots establish multi-stakeholder task forces, EPA Brownfields Pilot Managers provide support in planning and pre-development activities, and regional staff participate in regional work groups, such as the Community-Based Environmental Protection Work Group.

Completed Milestones

- 8/98 Brownfields Interagency Work Group decided to serve all brownfields pilots and brownfields impacted communities in the region.
- 9/98 Brownfields job training and development cooperative agreement for \$200,000 was awarded to the New Jersey Youth Corps.

Contact

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Region 3

The Baltimore Urban Environmental Initiative is a major cooperative effort involving the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Baltimore City Health Department, and Baltimore City Planning Department. The goal is to identify and rank areas of disproportionate environmental risk in Baltimore City and implement risk reduction, pollution prevention, public awareness, and other techniques to eliminate or minimize the risks. Grants awarded to the city and MDE are designed to address environmental concerns related to lead, hazardous materials incidents, indoor air quality, fish consumption, ground-level ozone pollution, and air toxics.

Completed Milestones

- FY98 Completed and distributed two lead education and awareness videos to health care agencies in all 24 Maryland subdivisions.
- FY98 Provided more than 3,000 lead-dust cleaning kits and appropriate training to area citizens.
- FY98 Provided training to heating, ventilating, and air conditioning workers in the Baltimore City Public Schools.
- FY98 Established a hazardous waste database for Baltimore businesses.
Established an Ozone Pollution television program.
- FY98 Provided grant funds to MDE for conducting a comprehensive fish consumption survey.
- FY98 Developed a draft risk evaluation report for Baltimore.

Contact

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Region 3 developed an international facilitated training module titled “Principles of Solid Waste Management Planning,” and four EPA facilitators delivered it in Pretoria, East London, and Cape Town, South Africa, in May 1997. The training involved 65 South African participants representing NGOs, CBOs, industry, and provincial and national environmental agencies. In September 1997, three EPA facilitators returned to South Africa to coach the “in country” facilitators who delivered three train-the-trainer courses to audiences in Pretoria, Port Elizabeth, and Cape Town. One EPA facilitator worked with

each group of South African facilitators, each of whom had been participants in the previous course delivery. The South Africans viewed this activity as a major success. The facilitators in Pretoria and Cape Town have held follow-up meetings to discuss plans for future course presentations in communities around South Africa. Region 3 also has been in communication with the South African Environmental Justice Network and has been providing them with technical information and environmental justice contacts in the United States.

Completed Milestones

- 5/97 Delivered training module.
- 9/97 Provided coaching for South African facilitators.

Contact

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Region 9

In FY97, Region 9 conducted a series of outreach meetings with community-based organizations and conducted presentations on environmental justice at various conferences and forums. The Region also has participated in various conferences and forums to communicate the importance of environmental justice.

On July 10 and 11, 1998, the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) conducted an Environmental Justice meeting in Los Angeles. This was a follow-up to a White House meeting with national environmental justice leaders in November 1997 and was the first of a series of environmental justice community meetings across the country. The Clinton Administration plans to convene follow-up dialogue with the community, local businesses and industry, and state and local government officials on the issues raised during the July meeting. The environmental justice community meetings addressed local issues and identified appropriate federal agencies to respond to community concerns. Subsequent Inter-agency Task Force (ITF) meetings also have been held and included a face-to-face meeting in Los Angeles on October 22, 1998, and a conference call on November 10, 1998. Region 9 has developed a draft Mission and Scope of the Task Force. CEQ and the federal agencies made a series of commitments to the community, which included for instance the ITF to monitor federal commitments, environmental enforcement, technical assistance, and Title VI training.

Completed Milestones

- FY97-98 Operated the Environmental Justice Information Line to promote access to Region 9's environmental justice activities.
- FY97 Conducted outreach meetings with public schools in the Bay Area to assess environmental justice education needs.
- FY97 Provided EPA leadership on environmental justice issues at local, regional, and national conferences.
- 7/98, 11/98 Held a CEQ environmental justice meeting.
- 10/98,11/98 Held an ITF meeting in Los Angeles and conference call.

- FY98 Reinforced EPA's commitment to communities impacted by environmental justice issues through proactive discussions with community leaders and organizations in the Bay Area, Los Angeles, South Phoenix, and San Diego.
- FY98 Conducted outreach meetings with public schools in the Bay Area to assess environmental justice educational needs.
- FY98 Provided EPA leadership on environmental justice issues at eight local, regional, and national conferences.

Contact

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Region 10

Region 10 is providing financial assistance to the Northeast Portland (Oregon) Environmental Justice Community through co-sponsorship of two community conferences organized by the Environmental Justice Action Group of Oregon. The first conference, called "Environmental Justice and You," focused on providing key information and tools to residents and identifying environmental justice issues of significance within the communities.

The second conference brought together individuals and groups working on environmental justice efforts in the four-state region. The conference focused on building a network of environmental justice advocacy within the geographic Pacific Northwest region and participating in information-sharing, education, capacity-building, and strategy sessions. This network is similar to that which exists within the Southern United States.

Completed Milestones

- 11/97 First conference.
- 5/98 Second conference.

Contact

Joyce Kelly, 206-553-4029

Action Item

Use regional environmental justice grants to promote environmental justice education

Region 2

In FY 1997, Region 2 established a Community Grants Workgroup to ensure that the headquarters and regional grant programs are well coordinated. The Workgroup assists stakeholders and potential grant applicants in accessing EPA grants. The Workgroup can make internal recommendations to help the Region better address community needs. Regional Environmental Justice Grants and other Community Grants are used to promote environmental justice education.

Region 2's Community Grants Workgroup developed a "How to Write a Grant Workshop" in FY 1997 for prospective environmental justice and environmental education grant applicants. The following Environmental Justice through Pollution Prevention grants also promote environmental justice education and capacity building of local constituents to address local environmental equity issues: Greenpoint/Williamsburg Environmental Education Project; Harlem Pollution Prevention Program; The Haudenosaunee Ohenton Karihwat-ehkwen: An Indigenous Strategy for Long-Term Pollution Prevention; Rabanal Environmental Justice through Pollution Prevention; and Paterson Pollution Prevention Program.

The purpose of the environmental justice grants is to provide financial assistance to eligible community groups, and federally recognized tribal governments that are working on or plan to carry out projects to address environmental justice issues. In FY 1998, \$2,500,000 was disbursed nationwide for environmental justice grants of which \$500,000 was made available for superfund projects only. In Region 2, \$300,000 was disbursed in FY 1998 for 13 grants in New York, New Jersey, and the Virgin Islands. Other community grant programs also supported environmental justice education. Information about other grants can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/region02/cgp/cgphmpg.htm>.

Completed Milestones

9/98 Awarded 13 environmental justice grants in Region 2.

Contact

Natalie Loney, (212) 637-3639

Region 10

Region 10's Environmental Justice Program awarded a \$11,300 grant to the Northwest Communities Education Center to conduct an educational campaign on proper disposal of household hazardous waste for predominately migrant farm laborers and the Hispanic community in the greater Yakima area.

Completed Milestones

7/97 Grant awarded

Contact

Joyce Kelly, (206) 553-4029

Action Item

Develop program-specific and community/minority-specific environmental justice outreach strategies

Region 2

Each Region 2 brownfields pilot recipient prepares a community involvement plan that includes proactive community outreach, education, and involvement strategies appropriate to the locality.

A community leadership program developed for the Trenton brownfields pilot is serving as a regional and national model of a process to foster early, on-going, and meaningful community participation. The Trenton community involvement and stakeholder education strategy includes the Leadership and Environmental Training Series (LETS) program sponsored by Rutgers University, Isles Center for Disease Control (CDC), and EPA's Technical Outreach Services for Communities (TOSC) program.

The purpose of LETS is to facilitate community and group development; cultivate understanding and leadership through education and training; enable residents to participate and be involved in the decision-making processes that impact their communities; create and foster long-term sensitivity, communication and partnerships between communities, businesses, government, and other public and private institutions. The first class graduated in the summer of 1997.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 Community involvement plans were received and approved for State of New York brownfields pilots in Glen Cove, Elmira, Niagara Falls; for the State of New Jersey in Elizabeth, Perth Amboy and Jersey City; and for the Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company in the Caribbean.
- FY97 Community involvement plans are underway or completed for the following FY 1998 Region 2 brownfields assessment pilots: Atlantic City, Hudson County, Long Branch, Middlesex, Morris, Paterson, Niagara County, Ogdensburg, Ulster, Utica, Yonkers, and Puerto Rico Ports Authority.

Contact

Lawrence D'Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Prior to releasing a proposed plan announcing a change in the GM Massena Superfund site's remediation strategy, EPA held separate meetings with members of the Mohawk Tribal Council, St. Regis Mohawk Environment Division, and Akwesasne Task Force on the Environment. These meetings provided the community more time to voice their concerns and gave EPA an opportunity to understand the nature of the concerns prior to the larger public forum, which normally is EPA first contact with the community. Another change in the outreach strategy was to hold the public meetings on Mohawk Territory. EPA advertised the meeting on the Mohawk radio station and in two tribal newspapers.

Completed Milestones

- 8/98 Individual meetings with the Tribal Council and Akwesasne Task Force on the Environment.
- 9/98 The proposed plan, which was published in a Record of Decision in March 1998, was discussed at a large public meeting and was not rejected by the community.

Contact

Anne Kelly, (212) 637-4264

The Vega Baja Waste Disposal Site is an inactive, unlined, uncapped, 19-acre parcel of land in a rural area of Río Abajo Ward, Vega Baja, Puerto Rico. The Municipality of Vega Baja disposed of (open burned) an estimated 1,108,540 cubic yards of waste at the site from 1948-1979. Today, approximately 213 houses are located on 11 acres of the site. In 1984, the Puerto Rico Land Authority transferred the landfill property to the Puerto Rico Housing Department (PRHD). The PRHD has in turn given title to some of the residents for the parcels on which they constructed houses.

Funds, estimated to be about \$2 million, have been requested to conduct a time-critical removal action of lead contaminated soil on two residence and a church. The levels of lead in the soil exceed EPA's removal action levels.

A Scope of Work for an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) was prepared to investigate the most cost effective method of remediating or removing the lead contaminated soil at approximately 42 residences. At this time, only \$117,000 are available to prepare the EE/CA documents. No funds are available for the studies. An Action Memorandum has been prepared requesting \$150,000 to initiate a groundwater investigation for the site as part of the remedial investigation and feasibility study for the site.

Completed Milestones

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| FY97 | Children's blood study, fruits and vegetable sampling. |
| FY97, 1/98, 8/98 | Several public meetings. |
| 8/98, 12/98 | Residential soil sampling XRF screening. |
| 11/98 | Public Health Assessment. |
| 9/99 | Time-critical removal of lead. |
| 10/99 | EE/CA prepared. |
| 10/99 | Groundwater RI/FS. |

Contact

Ramón Torres, (787) 729-6951, ext. 262

Action Item

Develop a public education and outreach program for communities likely to have OSWER-related environmental justice concerns

Region 2

Region 2 publishes a Quarterly Brownfields Community Report, which addresses the information needs of regional brownfield stakeholders. The distribution list includes state contacts, municipalities, civic associations, and non-profit groups. The Quarterly often includes articles specific to environmental justice issues and articles have highlighted community organizations pro-active brownfield redevelopment activities. In addition, the Quarterly invites article submissions to better serve regional information needs.

Region 2's Communications Division staff respond to public information and education requests related to waste issues. In addition, many of the community grants, such as the Superfund supported portion of Environmental Justice Small Grants, enable community-based entities to meet local information and education needs.

In FY 1997, Region 2 developed a brownfields Web page that links to headquarters, regional environmental justice information, and other resources.

Completed Milestones

- 97 Summer and winter Brownfield Community Involvement Quarterlies were published and distributed.
- 98 Summer and winter Brownfield Community Involvement Quarterlies were published and distributed.
- FY98 Community Involvement Plans underway or completed for FY 1998 for Atlantic City, Hudson County, Long Branch, Middlesex, Morris, Paterson, Niagara County, Ogdensburg, Ulster, Utica, Yonkers, and Puerto Rico Ports Authority.

Contact

Lawrence D'Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Region 4

Region 4 has established Community Advisory Groups as a way of ensuring community involvement in decision making at sites where environmental justice concerns occur. Community Advisory Groups (CAGs) have been established for Superfund Sites and Community-Based Environmental Protection (CBEP) projects.

Region 4 has two active CAGs on environmental justice sites. The Charleston/North Charleston Community-Based Environmental Protection Project Community Advisory Group was established as a result of the numerous interactions of Superfund staff in the area. Area residents have told EPA about other environmental concerns in the area. After deciding to institute the CBEP approach, efforts to establish a Community Advisory Group were made to ensure community involvement in the CBEP.

Completed Milestones

- 6/97 Solicited interest in forming a CAG.
 - 8/97 Informational session conducted with those expressing interest.
 - 10/97 Partner Agencies developed list of suggested members.
 - 12/97 Organizational session, interim officers established.
 - 1/98 First CAG meeting run by interim officers and subcommittee was established.
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At an EPA public meeting on the Tennessee Products Superfund Site in the spring 1997, City Councilman John Taylor and a City liaison, Moses Freeman urge community leaders to form a Community Advisory Group. EPA's guidance documents concerning CAGs provided the framework for the CAG, which provides a communication mechanism between EPA and the community. Since there were several community groups actively participating in the remedial process, formation of the CAG has made decision making and the flow of information more efficient.

Completed Milestones

- Summer 1997 Community leaders come together and formed a CAG.
 - Summer 1997 Community groups, S.T.oP. and its leader Milton Jackson received an EPA Technical Assistance Grant (TAG). The CAG selected a technical advisor soon after the CAG formed.
 - 1999 Technical reports, sampling data, and field updates are presented to the CAG through the technical advisor in a timely manner. The technical advisor is treated as a team member and has unrestricted access to the field activities and information being generated.
-
-

Region 4's environmental justice work for the Brunswick/Glynn County area in FY 1998 is summarized in the following milestones.

Completed Milestones

- 11/97 The Alabama/Georgia/Mississippi Section of the South Site Management Branch hosted a field trip for Zack Lyde, Save the People, Inc., to the Terry Creek Dredge Spoil Site.
- 1/98 The Alabama/Georgia/Mississippi Section of the South Site Management Branch presented the results of the CBEP sampling project on a local radio show. NAACP Community Relations Coordinator Robert Griffin hosted the radio show.
- 2/98 Region 4 staff met with Zack Lyde and members of Green Cross, an International Christian Environmental organization.
- FY98 Acting Assistant Administrator of OSWER Tim Fields visited the communities of Brunswick, Tifton, and Ft. Valley, Georgia.
- FY98 The Emergency Response and Removal Branch continued to remove contamination from the LCP Chemicals Site and Terry Creek Dredge Spoil Site.

- FY98 Remediation of the Hercules 009 Landfill is currently taking place.
- FY98 Remedial planning for the Terry Creek Dredge Spoil Site, the Brunswick Wood Preserving Site, and the LCP Chemicals Site is underway.
The Air Management Division and the RCRA Enforcement Branch inspected the Hercules, Inc. Plant.

Contact

Brian Holtzclaw, (404) 562-8684

Region 4's environmental justice work for Bennettsville, South Carolina, in FY 1998 is summarized in the following milestones.

Completed Milestones

- 3/98 Held a public meeting on March 6, 1998 to inform citizens about the cleanup at the Southern Asbestos plant. As a result of the public meeting, 85 former employees were interviewed to determine if any other employees had taken asbestos to their homes for insulation or other uses.
- 11/98 Relocated 15 residences and moved 13 residences back within ten days. Two residences are still under relocation. Soil samples were taken in over 30 lots adjacent to the plant and six were positive. These lots were re-sampled and only one will have asbestos removal work.
- FY98 Met with local officials and media to inform them of the work to be performed at Southern Asbestos.
- FY98 OSC gives updates on the site on a local radio station (WBSC 1550) every Thursday morning at 7:45 a.m.
- FY98 Attended a district meeting and gave a presentation to 13 minority church leaders to enlist their help in getting information to people and to try to locate former employees who may have taken asbestos to their homes.
- FY98 Met with families in homes adjacent to the Southern Asbestos plant.
- FY98 Hosted another public meeting on the status of the cleanup and answered questions that some of the residents and former employees had asked during interviews.
- FY98 Waste Management Division staff organized and held a health fair/information meeting, which involved the SC Workmen's Compensation Commission, the Social Security Administration, the Health and Human Services Office, and several specialists in occupational health and pulmonary medicine.

Contact

Brian Holtzclaw, (404) 562-8684

Region 4's environmental justice staff participated in announcing the Project XL-Atlantic Steel, Atlanta, Georgia, initiative in September 1998. In FY 1999, the Region plans to continue attending local meetings and form an environmental justice focus group to flesh out environmental justice issues associated with proposed redevelopment activities. Region 4's environmental justice staff is working with EPA Headquarter's environmental justice

staff to ensure that the proposal meets the XL criteria and respects the Executive Order on environmental justice, as well as EPA's environmental justice policies and guidelines.

Completed Milestones

9/98 Announced Project XL-Atlantic Steel.

Contacts

Michelle Glenn, (404) 562-8674
Brian Holtzclaw, (404) 562-8684

Region 4's Waste Management Division (WMD) environmental justice team continues to work with Marasco Newton Group, LTD, to develop an innovative environmental justice training program for EPA staff in Region 4. The final environmental justice training package will be shared with headquarters and other regions for use as a prototype for employee training Agency-wide.

For five months, a WMD staff person participated in the development of a work plan and agenda for the Brunswick Environmental Justice Community Pilot Training Course (Unit #1). Environmental justice staff attended training during which "Communities for a Better Environment" presented practical fundamentals and successes in community-based air sampling and efforts to protect communities from adverse fish consumption. Georgia Tech presented the basics of the TOSC, TAB and ICORE grants available to communities.

For the past three months, WMD staff has worked with the Community Involvement Coordinator on the IMC and the Arkwright Superfund sites, complex and controversial sites. The staff has also facilitated communication with the environmental justice group, Re-Genesis and the EPA at critical occasions, participated in EPA coordination sessions, and supported the community interviews with former plant employees. The interviews helped the sampling plan narrow down the hot spots that should be sampled based upon historical site practices.

Contacts

Eddie L. Wright, (404) 562-8669
Brian Holtzclaw, (404) 562-8684

Action Item

Conduct an environmental justice workshop to lend assistance to a South Tucson environmental justice community nearby the Tucson International Airport Superfund site

Region 9

Community members of the Unified Community Advisory Board (UCAB) requested the Environmental justice program present an informational workshop detailing Region 9's environmental justice program. Environmental justice staff attended a UCAB meeting to

assess the needs of community members, and with their assistance, they developed an agenda for a two-hour workshop, which was held in February 1999. All important segments of the community attended including business, corporations, city, county and state governments, organized neighborhood groups, and individual citizens.

A follow-up visit to the UCAB the next month offered an opportunity to evaluate the workshop and identify next steps. During that visit, environmental justice staff toured the neighborhood with community representatives to understand the broader environmental justice concerns in the area.

Subsequent to these events, EPA received correspondence from Ms. Joanne Mesa of the UCAB on behalf of her community requesting more detailed environmental justice assistance including an extensive community workshop, communication assistance with the Air National Guard and other agencies on the expansion and impact of their activities in the community, Environmental Justice Program participation on the EPA superfund site team, and a formal environmental justice analysis of South Tucson. The Environmental Justice Program is responding to her requests.

Completed Milestones

- 2/99 Informational workshop detailing Region 9's environmental justice program.
- 3/99 Follow-up visit to the UCAB to evaluate the workshop and identify next steps.

Contact

Running-Grass, (415) 744-1205

Action Item

Conduct regional environmental justice public forums

Region 4

On December 11-13, 1997, EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance and Region 4 sponsored the Environmental Justice Enforcement Roundtable. Region 4's Waste Division helped plan as well as attend this event, which was held in Durham, North Carolina, after the NEJAC meeting of December 1997. Hundreds of environmental justice grassroots activists participated along with local, state, and federal environmental agency personnel. Waste Division environmental justice staff and managers delivered addresses and participated on panels and breakout sessions. As a result of the conference, a *Summary of Recommendations* was generated and leads were assigned. In July 1998, Waste Division environmental justice staff compiled a status report on these recommendations.

Completed Milestones

- 12/97 Held the Environmental Justice Enforcement Roundtable.
- 7/98 Compiled a status report containing recommendations from the Roundtable meeting.

Contact

Connie Raines, (404) 562- 9671

Region 9

Region 9 conducted a series of outreach meetings with community-based organizations and gave presentations on environmental justice at various conferences and forums. The outreach meetings were designed to assess environmental justice concerns, develop viable strategies to address those concerns, and foster strong working relationships. Region 9 conducted outreach meetings in Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco Bay Area, South Phoenix, and Tucson. The groups the Region met with included the Environmental Health Coalition, Asian Pacific Environmental Network, Communities for a Better Environment, Don't Waste Arizona, Arizona Environmental Justice Advisory Council, Mothers of East Los Angeles, First African Episcopal Methodist Church of Los Angeles, Community Coalition for Change, and the Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice.

Region 9 has participated in the following conferences and forums to communicate the importance of environmental justice: Federal Facilities Conference, American Bar Association Annual Conference, Association of Environmental Professionals, International Right of Way Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Upward Bound Program and Second Annual Youth Leadership Summit, the National Hispanic Sustainability Conference, National Environmental Justice Conference in South Carolina, Association of Environmental Professionals, and Senator George Miller's Congressional District Grant Workshop.

Completed Milestones

- Operation of the Environmental Justice Information Line to promote informational access to Region 9 environmental justice activities.
- Reinforced EPA's commitment to communities impacted by environmental justice issues through proactive discussions with community leaders and organizations in the Bay Area, Los Angeles, South Phoenix, and San Diego.
- Conducted outreach meetings with public schools in the Bay Area to assess environmental justice education needs.
- Provided EPA leadership on environmental justice issues at local, regional, and national conferences including: Los Angeles Environmental Justice Workshop; Los Angeles Town hall Meeting on Air Rule 1610; Environmental Conference of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists; National Brownfields '97 Conference; Southwest Network for Economic and Environmental Justice (SNEEJ) Gathering; National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) Meeting; Western Alliance of Farmworker Advocates Conference, and the National American Bar Association Conference.

Contact

Romel Pascual, (415) 744-1212

Action Item

Enhance outreach activities to minority and/or low-income groups

Region 10

Region 10's goal is to enhance EPA's community involvement efforts by being responsive to the unique needs of groups that may otherwise be under-represented through EPA's traditional outreach efforts, and by being adaptable to the existing forms of communication within communities. For instance, Superfund outreach staff issues fact sheets to non-English speaking community members in eastern Washington where there is a high percentage of Hispanic migrant farm workers. Similarly, in the Puget Sound area, EPA's Superfund activities affect Asian-speaking populations who rely on fisheries for a higher proportion of their diet. EPA in conjunction with local authorities has provided fish advisories in several Asian dialects to warn of the potential exposures to shellfish.

Contact

Debra Packard, (206) 553-0247

Grant Warehouse was the site of a time critical removal by EPA's Emergency Response Unit. The site is in a high-density residential neighborhood with mixed-use commercial property in NE Portland, Oregon. Large quantities of chemicals were stored in this warehouse, which was used as a metallurgical laboratory for 20 years. Neighborhood groups in the community are highly active.

The removal project was very visible and resulted in a high level of community interest. As a result, Region 10 devised intensive community outreach efforts to address community concerns and conducted door-to-door visits to all homes in the immediate block. Fact sheets were maintained at the perimeter of fenced areas to keep community members informed of progress throughout the process. EPA conducted all of its outreach through existing community group forums and activities.

Contact

Jeffrey Rodin, (206) 553-6709

Action Item

Focus on environmental education in specific geographic areas using an environmental justice theme

Region 5

Region 5 supports and participates in teacher education activities throughout the Region's six states. In the past, EPA has sponsored, co-sponsored, or participated as a partner in teaching workshops in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. These workshops cover

a wide variety of environmental topics and are presented from an interdisciplinary perspective.

Completed Milestones

- 2/27 Educator's Conference on Biodiversity.
- 7/97 National Environmental Education Material Guideline Workshop for the City of Chicago and Springfield, Illinois.
- 7/97 Southeast Michigan Teacher's Institute on Environmental Education..
- 8/97 Pollution Prevention Workshop for Chicago Public School.

Contact

Suzanne Saric, (312) 353-3209

Action Item

Develop an environmental justice homepage

Region 5

Region 5's Superfund Division has developed a homepage that contains a section on environmental justice. The environmental justice section identifies CAGs, with possible environmental justice concerns and contains the FY 1997 and FY 1998 Environmental Justice Implementation Plan for Superfund, Superfund policy on identifying possible environmental justice concerns, and much more.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Updated homepage as needed.

Contacts

Oliver L. Warnsley, (312) 886-0442
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Topic Area: Economic Redevelopment

Action Item

Continue to implement brownfields pilot projects

Region 1

In FY 1998, Region 1 awarded nearly \$1.8 million in grants and services to eighteen New England municipalities for brownfields activities. A total of 38 New England communities have been selected to receive brownfields assessment demonstration pilots (“assessment pilots”) through FY 1998. These assessment pilots will provide up to \$200,000 to local, tribal, and state governmental entities to conduct site assessments and related activities at brownfields sites.

The assessment pilots are distributed throughout New England, although the majority are located in the more industrialized states of Connecticut and Massachusetts. The current breakdown by states is: Connecticut (9), Maine (3), Massachusetts (20), New Hampshire (3), Rhode Island (2), and Vermont (1). Very few cities and towns have been spared the blighting effect of brownfields properties, but the highest concentrations tend to be associated with environmental justice communities. For this reason, an important goal of the assessment pilot program is the inclusion of the community in local planning and decision-making processes.

Region 1's brownfields team actively monitors existing pilots, continues to emphasize the need for effective community involvement throughout each phase of the brownfields' process, and assists where possible on technical or legal issues. In addition, the brownfields team continues to work with these and other communities to inform them of its various assistance programs. Cities and towns with a large number of brownfields sites and those with significant environmental justice populations and issues are especially targeted for this outreach.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Awarded 38 brownfields assessment demonstration pilots in New England.

As an adjunct to the pilot program, Region 1 has expanded its efforts under the Targeted Site Assessment Initiative. Targeted Site Assessments differ from pilots in that the actual site investigation work is conducted by EPA contractors on behalf of local governments. Sites are selected through a competitive process in which these local entities nominate abandoned or underutilized sites that represent high priority redevelopment projects. By their nature, most of these sites are located in areas where environmental justice issues are a major concern. Region 1 has completed or is currently conducting site assessment work at 20 sites with plans to add more sites in FY 1999.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Completed or currently conducting site assessment work at 20 sites with plans to add more in FY 1999.

The job training pilots provide training for residents in communities impacted by brownfields. Pilot funds are used to ensure that trainees include, but are not limited to, the unemployed, welfare to work, environmental justice communities, and other disadvantaged populations. The goals of the pilots are to prepare trainees for employment related to the assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of brownfields properties whose reuse has been impeded by contamination. The trainees typically become certified in Lead/Asbestos and OSHA 40 Hour HAZWOPER. In FY 1998, EPA-NE awarded two pilots to Jobs for Youth-Boston and the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts, for \$200,000 each. An estimate total of 35 trainees have graduated during the first year from the two pilots. The grantees were two of only eleven entities nationwide to receive the funding under the “Brownfields Job Training and Development Demonstration Projects” initiative.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Awarded two job training pilots for Youth-Boston and the City of New Bedford, Massachusetts, for \$200,000 each.

In March of 1998, Lowell, Massachusetts, Stamford, Connecticut, and the State of Rhode Island were designated as three of the nation’s 16 “Brownfield Showcase Communities.” The showcase community designation takes the EPA’s brownfields program one step further by bringing more agencies and other federal resources into the mix. EPA teamed up with 15 other federal agencies—Housing and Urban Development, Department of Commerce, and the Small Business Administration among them—to address the brownfields issue using a holistic approach. The collective knowledge and resources of this broad-based government coalition translates into a richer, more inclusive brownfields program. In addition, beginning in October of 1998, EPA-NE assigned a full-time employee to work exclusively in each community.

Using a \$200,000 brownfields grant provided by Region 1 in FY 1997, Lowell, Massachusetts, was able to start addressing contamination at the site of the Paul Tsongas Arena. One year and millions of leveraged dollars later, Lowell has begun to address, and ultimately redevelop, properties such as Lawrence Mills and the Gilmore Trust building.

Stamford officials have devised an ambitious, yet attainable goal of redeveloping the former Northeast Utilities Gas Plant, the Fuel Oil Depot Site, and the Yale & Towne Site. The city’s proposal is part of a comprehensive strategy to reclaim the harbor as a major economic and recreational resource, and as a result, revitalize Stamford’s two lowest income neighborhoods.

For the State of Rhode Island, the Showcase Community designation builds upon some very impressive efforts, specifically those of the Woonasquatucket River Greenway Project, which is aimed at restoring green space and spurring development along some of the river’s

most neglected banks. With federal assistance, the Greenway Project's goals of turning the Riverside Mills and Lincoln Lace and Braid sites into commercial and green space and creating upwards of 100 jobs in the process will be realized.

Completed Milestones

- 3/98 Lowell, Massachusetts, Stamford, Connecticut, and the State of Rhode Island were designated as brownfields showcase communities.
- 10/98 EPA-NE assigned a full-time employee to work exclusively in each New England showcase community.



In an effort to maximize the use and availability of other relevant federal programs, Region 1 has been developing partnerships with other federal agencies to exchange information and explore potential opportunities for collaboration. Information is then shared with the pilot cities/towns who are in the best position to make effective use of these programs.

Region 1 continues to seek opportunities for advancing its brownfields agenda outside of core program areas. An example is the Morse Cutting Tool site located in the Cape Verdean community in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Previously, EPA assisted the State of Massachusetts by conducting a search of previous site owners to support a possible Superfund claim for past remediation. The state used this information to approach the current owner, resulting in a voluntary consent agreement to investigate and clean up the site. Two large abandoned structures have since been demolished and debris removed, and site remediation is ongoing. Since the project directly impacts the surrounding Cape Verdean community, EPA provided technical assistance through the Hazardous Substance Research Center (HSRC) to review and comment on the environmental assessment and cleanup studies prepared by the property owner. This provides the community with a third-party review of the environmental work being performed at the site.

Region 2

In FY 1997, Region 2 awarded a Brownfield Assessment Demonstration Pilot of \$50,000 to Glen Cove, New York, and \$200,000 to Elizabeth, New Jersey. The brownfields award recipients in FY 1997 include Elmira and Niagara Falls in New York; Perth Amboy and Jersey City in New Jersey; and the Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company. Regional procedure calls for each pilot to submit a community involvement plan which integrates environmental justice and fosters informed, meaningful involvement. In addition, FY 1997 activities include inter-Agency coordination and program development to meet regional brownfields needs. Currently, Region 2 is developing a field screening team to quickly screen environmental conditions at sites selected by pilot cities as potential brownfields development candidates. Region 2 is preparing issue papers, a brownfields redevelopment manual, and a computerized decision model to address many of the concerns and issues encountered in the pilots.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 Awarded regional Brownfield Assessment Demonstration Pilot grants to Glen Cove, New York, and Elizabeth, New Jersey.

FY97 Awarded National Pilot grants to Elmira and Niagara Falls in New York; Perth Amboy and Jersey City in New Jersey; and the Puerto Rico Industrial Development Company.

Contacts

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Chelsea Albucher, (212) 637-4291

In FY 1998, 12 Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot Cooperative Agreements were awarded in Region 2. Regional procedure calls for each pilot to submit a community involvement plan which integrates environmental justice and fosters informed, meaningful involvement. FY 1998 activities include establishment of the Regional Interagency Brownfields Work Group and grantees workshop; "Life After the Grant: From Developing a Pilot to Sustainable Brownfields Program." Each Pilot has an EPA liaison designated to provide assistance and facilitate access to EPA engineering, science, and emergency response resources.

Region 2's brownfields assessment demonstration pilots awarded in FY 1998 are: Atlantic City, Hudson County, Long Branch, Middlesex, Morris, Paterson, Niagara County, Ogdensburg, Ulster, Utica, Yonkers, and the Puerto Rico Ports Authority.

Region 2's brownfields job training and development pilots awarded in FY 1998 include the New Jersey Youth Corps.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Awarded 12 brownfields assessment pilot cooperative agreements.
FY98 Awarded one brownfields job training and development pilot.

Contact

Lawrence D'Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Region 4

In support of the Healthy Community Initiative, Region 4's Waste Management Division and the Medical University of South Carolina's Environmental Hazards Assessment Program co-sponsored a symposium on December 5, 1996, called "Doing Business with the Federal Government: Establishing Partnerships for Sustainable Community based Economic Development." More than ten federal agencies participated in the symposium, which attracted more than 100 minority contractors and small business owners.

Region 4 worked with EPA Headquarters and the local community to determine the possibility of establishing a jobs training program at the Wingate Road Landfill Site in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. During 1998, the Region plans to develop a Memorandum of Agreement with a training provider following resolution of the funding issues.

Three brownfields pilots have been awarded using Revolving Loan Fund grants: St. Petersburg, Florida; Birmingham, Alabama; and Louisville, Kentucky. These grants will be used to provide seed money to state and local governments to test funding models and facilitate coordinated public and private cleanup efforts.

Completed Milestones

- 12/96 Co-sponsored a symposium called "Doing Business with the Federal Government: Establishing Partnerships for Sustainable Community based Economic Development."
- FY98 Region 4 will develop a Memorandum of Agreement with a training provider for the Jobs training program at the Wingate Road Landfill site, following resolution of funding issues.

Region 7

Region 7 continues to explore opportunities to implement brownfields pilot projects in support of its environmental justice implementation plan. Region 7 assists in application development when there is definitive interest. Region 7 provided a grant to the Great Plains/Rocky Mountain Hazardous Substance Research Center at Kansas State University to assist communities with brownfields pilot projects in acquiring information and data, organizing and distributing information, interpreting technical information, and participating in planning and implementation phases.

Region 7 has encouraged its new pilots (in Kansas City Metro Area; Wellston, Missouri; and Des Moines, Iowa) to implement community involvement aspects into their projects. Region 7 also has encouraged selection of a site for assessment in the Kansas City pilot that West Side neighborhood residents are most concerned about. EPA has been meeting with citizens about pilot projects in Kansas City and Bonne Terre, Missouri, and has been meeting with a number of communities to encourage participation in the brownfields pilot program.

Completed Milestones

- 4/97 Awarded a brownfields assessment pilot to Wellston, Missouri.
- 9/97 Awarded a brownfields assessment pilot to Des Moines, Iowa.

Contact

Kerry Herndon, (913) 551- 7286

Region 9

Region 9 is fully committed to promoting the Brownfields National Partnership Action Agenda by managing the brownfields pilots, creating partnerships, conducting outreach to environmental justice communities, and conducting targeted brownfields assessments at selected properties. Currently, there are 30 brownfields pilot grants, five revolving loan fund pilots, and two job training pilots in Region 9. In 1998, Los Angeles and East Palo Alto were selected as showcase communities. Region 9 also provided a staff member on

loan to the East Palo Alto, Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency, and to the California Center for Land Recycling—a non-profit organization.

Completed Milestones

- 12/97 Thirteen brownfields site assessment pilots and one revolving loan fund pilot is in place in Region 9.
- 5/97 Stationed staff in East Palo Alto, Los Angeles, Richmond, and the nonprofit organization California for Land Recycling.
- 8/97 Targeted site assessments provided to: Hawaii Department of Health, North Fork, California, and Yuma, Arizona.
- 2/97 Los Angeles established a \$1 million brownfields revitalization fund that was increased in 1998 and 1999 to a total of \$2.4 million.
- 3/98 East Palo Alto and Los Angeles were selected as brownfields showcase communities.
- 7/99 Thirty brownfields site assessment pilots, six revolving loan fund pilots, and three job training pilots in Region 9.
- 7/99 Seventeen targeted brownfields assessments were completed or are underway.

Contact

Bobbie Kahan, (415) 744-2191

Action Item

Regional support to San Francisco Brownfields Advisory Board

Region 9

San Francisco was awarded a regional brownfields pilot grant of \$100,000 in September 1996 to revitalize the Bayview Hunters Point community. The grant was increased to \$200,000 in 1997. The city has established a Brownfields Advisory Board made up of community members, academia, local business owners, local representatives, and lenders. The board has just completed the development of site selection criteria to select a site(s) for the sampling phase (II) of the project.

Completed Milestones

- 2/97 Hired a contractor and two community members to assist with a phase I site assessment.
- 8/97 Completed an area-wide phase I site assessment report for the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood and entered the environmental information into a geographic information system data base.
- 10/97 Drafted site selection criteria to select a site for environmental sampling.

Contact Person

Bobbie Kahan, (415) 744-2191

Region 10

Region 10 provides brownfields grants for pilot projects, funds brownfields site assessment activities, funds states to develop Voluntary Cleanup Programs, and conducts outreach to educate businesses and lenders on existing protections to liability associated with contaminated properties. Region 10 has increased its brownfields efforts from one full time employee to nearly three full time employees.

Region 10 has eight brownfields pilot projects. One of the goals of the brownfields pilots is to inform and involve the nearby communities. Four pilots are directly benefitting environmental justice communities. The City of Portland has a grant to focus redevelopment on the city's Enterprise Community, which has a poverty rate of 35%. Another pilot will allow the Puyallup Tribe to address a contaminated property that is necessary for a planned marine terminal development. The Ketchikan Gateway Borough project and the Oregon Mills pilot have addressed site characterization and redevelopment needs for mill sites in distressed timber communities.

In addition, Region 10 is conducting targeted brownfields site assessments for two tribal communities—the Burns Paiute Tribe of Oregon and the Metlakatla Indian Community in Alaska.

Completed Milestones

- 9/95 Grant awarded to Duwamish Coalition project and Oregon Mill sites.
- 9/96 Grant awarded to Panhandle Health District, Port of Bellingham, Puyallup Tribe.
- 3/96 Grant awarded to City of Tacoma, City of Portland.
- 4/97 Grant awarded to Ketchikan Gateway Borough.

Contact

Lori Cohen, (206) 553-6523

Action Item

Develop and implement job training and community outreach activities

Region 2

As part of the Jersey City Brownfields Pilot, Region 2 has partnered with local stakeholders to develop brownfields related job training for students at New Jersey State College.

The Trenton Leadership Environmental Training Series (LETS) held its first graduation in the summer of 1997. LETS developed in conjunction with the Trenton Brownfields Pilot and with support from the Northeast Hazardous Substance Research Center and Technical Outreach Services for Communities program.

The LETS mission is to facilitate community and group development, cultivate understanding and leadership through education and training, enable residents to participate and be involved in the decision-making processes that impact their communities, and create and

foster long-term sensitivity, communication, and partnerships among communities, businesses, government, and other public and private institutions.

In FY 1998, Region 2 conducted outreach and provided application assistance for the brownfields job training and development pilots. The national review panel selected an application from the region. In addition, public agency personnel and students were able to access EPA environmental training program courses, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration required 40-hour health and safety course for hazardous waste site workers.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Awarded a brownfields job training and development pilot to the New Jersey Youth Corps to train 18-25 year old underemployed and unemployed people of Newark and Camden.

Contact

Lawrence D'Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Region 9

In August 1997, Region 9 piloted a technical training and jobs placement program for the community surrounding the East Palo Alto brownfields site. Sixteen students received seven weeks of extensive training from DePaul University in hazardous waste handling, lead and asbestos abatement, and underground storage tank cleanup and removal. EPA provided the funding for this program to DePaul through an existing grant the university has with the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences. Classroom training was followed by 90 days of paid on-the-job training with several environmental cleanup firms in the area. Throughout the training program, Region 9 conducted extensive outreach activities with large industry companies. There were more permanent jobs than students available.

In FY 1999, Region 9 assisted the cities of East Palo Alto and San Francisco with developing a minority worker training program with funds from the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences. This program teaches residents living near brownfields sites environmental remediation and construction skills. Several rounds of training have taken place and have resulted in very high placement and retention rates of program graduates in the environmental field. EPA also funded brownfields job training pilot grants to the cities of Richmond, Oakland, and San Francisco, California.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Began the second round of training in East Palo Alto, California.

FY99 Funded environmental job training in the cities of East Palo Alto, Richmond, San Francisco, and Oakland, California.

Contact

Sherry Nikzat, (415) 744-2360

Action Item

Explore the use of enforcement tools to stimulate brownfields development

Region 2

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection partners with Region 2 to provide support to EPA brownfields pilots in New Jersey. Many of the pilot target sites are addressed through the respective state's voluntary cleanup program to allow the flexibility necessary to stimulate brownfields redevelopment.

Region 2 is developing strong ties with the New York Department of Environmental Conservation to address many of the brownfields pilot city sites through the state voluntary cleanup program and brownfields program of the recently enacted Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act. Region 2 also entered into prospective purchaser agreements. Region 2 explained the policy on various enforcement tools and liability guidance offered by the Agency through meetings with each of the pilots and through public presentations from Region 2 staff.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Partners with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to assist brownfields pilots.

FY98 Entered into prospective purchaser agreements.

Contact

Lawrence D'Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Action Item

Support private efforts to conduct and define all appropriate inquiry related to property transfers

Region 2

Region 2 actively responds to informal information requests and formal FOIA and webpage FOIA information requests about properties. When EPA has no information on a brownfields site, people are referred to appropriate state and local agencies and information resources, such as New Jersey's Known Contaminated Sites database available on the Internet.

Contact

Jenny Delcimento, (212) 637-4296

Action Item

Build a technical and organizational infrastructure to assist economic development in environmental justice communities

Region 2

For each brownfields pilot, Region 2 convenes resource meetings with key partners to present the EPA resources available to localities (counties, cities, and towns). These meetings, which are tailored to each pilot's needs, involve EPA representatives from emergency removal and pre-remedial site assessment and may include representatives from the Office of Regional Counsel to clarify liability issues and from contracts and grants to share information on other EPA programs. These face-to-face meetings build the relationships necessary for beneficial partnership and local capacity building to address the environmental aspects impeding economic development in environmental justice communities.

The Region 2 brownfields team has worked with state environmental agencies to support site assessment activities and brownfields redevelopment in economically depressed areas.

In FY 1998, EPA met with all brownfields pilot communities to present the range of technical assistance available through Superfund, and information about community grants that are available from other divisions and programs. Also in FY 1998, Region 2 convened the Brownfields Inter-Agency Work Group comprised of over 14 federal and state agencies. This work group provides the organizational infrastructure necessary to support holistic community revitalization. Active members of the work group include the Economic Development Administration, the U.S. Department of Transportation, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and state environmental and economic development counterparts. The brownfields team has been able to connect brownfields pilot communities to federal and state agencies and departments that can address issues outside of EPA's jurisdiction. EPA has provided technical assistance and a resource network to increase local economic development capacity.

Completed Milestones

6/98 Convened Brownfields Interagency Work Group. Resource meetings with brownfields pilots are ongoing.

Contact

Chelsea Albucher, (212) 637-4291

Region 9

Region 9's Brownfields Working Group, which contains community members in the San Francisco Bay Area and representatives of nonprofit organizations, holds monthly meetings to discuss brownfields and environmental justice issues. This working group provides an opportunity for local community-based environmental organizations, federal agencies, brownfields pilot cities, students, foundations, and community members to learn more about brownfields and plan their future involvement in brownfields efforts. The working group

holds workshops, gives community tours, and participates in national brownfields and environmental justice conferences. EPA helps support the working group through an environmental justice grant to the Urban Habitat Program, the host of the Brownfields Working Group. The working group presented “A Workshop on the Language and Practice of Brownfields Redevelopment” in May and November 1997 to provide a variety of perspectives aimed at showing community members how to move a brownfields redevelopment project forward.

Completed Milestones

5/97, 11/97 Presented “A Workshop on the Language and Practice of Brownfields Redevelopment.”
5/99 Published *Building Upon Our Strengths, A Community Guide to Brownfields Redevelopment in the San Francisco Bay Area.*

Contact

Bobbie Kahan, (415) 744-2191

Action Item

Increase coordination with other federal agency and state and local governments to support brownfield redevelopment

Region 2

Region 2 is strengthening working relations with state agencies through the brownfields program. State environmental agency representatives are invited to brownfields pilot meetings. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has committed a staff representative to each EPA brownfields pilot in New Jersey.

Region 2 has an employee on an inter-personnel agreement to the City of Camden to support their brownfields redevelopment effort. Part of FY97 activities included developing economic development symposia with HUD and EDA.

Regional staff met with General Services Administration staff to explore potential reuse of federal properties.

Completed Milestones

FY97 Developed an economic development symposia with HUD and EDA.

Contact

Lawrence D’Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Action Item

Support the application of innovative technologies to expedite brownfields redevelopment

Region 2

Region 2 is implementing innovative technologies for site investigation in conjunction with the North East Hazardous Substance Research Center, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, the Emergency Response Team, and the Newark and Trenton brownfield pilots. Community education and involvement are a part of this brownfields effort.

In response to local needs identified through the brownfields initiative, Region 2 is developing a rapid field assessment team, to provide a quick overview of environmental conditions at a property of concern or a property with development priority. This information will help decision makers allocate resources and prioritize sites for further investigation, remediation, and redevelopment.

Contact

Lawrence D'Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Action Item

Strengthening brownfields redevelopment

Region 6

The Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office's new fact sheet, "Strengthening Brownfields Redevelopment," describes how various groups and federal agencies have teamed up to develop new outreach strategies to clean up brownfields.

Region 6 has been pursuing training opportunities for communities impacted by contaminated properties through the National Institute for Environmental Health Science's (NIEHS) Minority Worker Training Program (MWTP) and the brownfields job training and development demonstration pilots. The goal is to provide pre-employment job training, environmental preparation, and other related construction or building skills training to communities impacted by contaminated properties, such as brownfields or sites on Superfund's National Priority List.

Completed Milestones

- FY98 MWTP for residents in the neighborhood of the Agriculture Street Landfill Site in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- FY98 Ten students enrolled in HAZMAT (hazardous materials) training, study, life, and math skill classes have graduated from the MWTP at the RSR Smelter Site—Dallas, Texas.

- FY98 Awarded a brownfields-related MWTP grant to Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service to train personnel in heavy construction and environmental classes. Three training classes have graduated, and the next class will start in early summer 1999.
- FY98 Awarded a brownfields-related MWTP grant to Xavier University in New Orleans. Eight students are currently enrolled and will graduate in July 1999.

Action Item

Provide technical support to the Native Village of Fort Yukon to conduct a site characterization of several sites within the Village

Region 10

Fort Yukon, Alaska, has a population of approximately 800, 85% of whom are native Indian peoples. According to the 1990 census, half of the households in Fort Yukon earned less than \$18,000 in annual income. The average income falls between \$5,000 and \$14,000. Several areas within the Village of Fort Yukon have been identified as potentially contaminated. In the summer of 1999, EPA conducted a targeted brownfields assessment and expects to provide the Village with a final report in January 2000. The Village intends to utilize this information to determine what actions will be necessary to return the land to productive use.

Completed Milestones

8/99 Conducted sampling at the Fort Yukon, Alaska, site.

Contact

Joanne LaBaw, (206) 553-2594

Action Item

Coordinate with an affected community to consider future land uses in Superfund decision making

Region 10

At the Bunker Hill Superfund Site, which is located in very depressed communities, Region 10 has maintained contact with local officials as they designed and implemented cleanup plans. An example of the Region 10's involvement is the Central Impoundment Area closure, which occupies a large part of the community's flat land that could be reused. Region 10 worked successfully with the State of Idaho to design a closure configuration that met both the community's request for a golf course and EPA's requirement for an environmental protection. Although the closure design is ready and the community remains interested, a golf course developer needs to be found.

Contact

Cami Grandinetti, (206) 553-8696

Action Item

Support the application of innovative technologies to expedite brownfields redevelopment

Region 2

In FY 1998, Region 2 continued to develop a rapid mobile field screening facility, which will provide the community with information about how serious possible environmental conditions may be at a site. This information will help decision makers allocate resources and prioritize sites for further investigation, remediation, and redevelopment.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Developing a rapid mobile field screening facility.

Contact

Lawrence D'Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Contracts, Grants, and Labor

Action Items:

Implement the Mentor-Protégée Program.	45
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Topic Area: Contracts, Grants, and Labor

Action Item

Implement the Mentor-Protégée Program

Region 2

Region 2 used the Mentor/Protégée Program to enhance opportunities for small, disadvantaged, and women-owned environmental companies to participate in contracting opportunities with several Region 2 prime contracts. The Mentor/Protégée program also was used with the concurrence from the Office of Acquisition Management and Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization for Region 2's Response Action Contracts (RACs.) Participation in the Mentor/Protégée program is designed to enable small business firms to become familiar with EPA contract requirements under the watchful eyes of an experienced EPA prime contractor. The goal of the program is to enable the protégée firms to use this knowledge in the future to compete for future contracts.

Completed Milestones

FY98 The START contract is in its fifth and final year of operation.
7/98 Two RAC contracts were awarded.

Contact

Shaheer Alvi, (212) 637-4324

Action Item

Promote increased use of local, small, and disadvantaged businesses

Region 2

Region 2 reports on the status of meeting the goals established in individual ARCS contracts for procurement of small, and small disadvantaged businesses (SBE/SDBs). This reporting is done on a semiannual basis to EPA Headquarter's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization. Achievement of SBE/SDB goals are considered during the semi-annual award fee determinations. All six ARCS contracts expired in FY 1999, but the reporting, monitoring, and award fee requirements continued with the Response Action Contracts (RACs), the successors to ARCs. Region 2 plans to continue reporting on this item in future ARCS contracts.

Contact

Shaheer Alvi, (212) 637-4324

Region 7

Region 7's Superfund contractors agreed to subcontract 30% to small businesses, 15% to small disadvantaged businesses, and 2% to women-owned businesses at the time of contract award. These percentage goals are monitored through semi-annual reports and through the award fee process. In some instances, award fee scores were lowered because the Performance Evaluation Board did not believe the contractor made its best effort to subcontract to small disadvantaged businesses.

Negotiations with PRPs continue to encourage the use of local, small minority-owned business for supplies and labor. Region 7 continues to explore ways to segregate portions of its cleanup work to make contract awards to small disadvantaged businesses as prime contracts through the SBA 8(a) program. This work would ordinarily be subcontracted by the ERCS/ERRS prime contractor. Region 7 has successfully awarded several of these contracts.

Completed Milestones

FY97 Region 7's contractors exceeded their small business goals by 50%, their small disadvantaged business goals by 50% and, in some instances, by 100%; and also met their women-owned business goals.

FY97 Region 7 awarded through subcontracts approximately \$5.7 million to small businesses, \$2.1 million to small disadvantaged businesses, and \$1 million to women-owned businesses.

Contact

Alma Brent, (913) 551-7212

Region 9

Region 9's Superfund program plans to promote small business through the Contracts 2000 effort, which has the goal to target small business during the next round of Superfund contracts. The stated goal is to "increase small, minority, and women-owned business participation in the contracting program."

Completed Milestones

FY98 A 5-year, \$7.2 million oversight contract (ROC) for federal facilities was awarded to a small business.

Contact

Caroline Ireason, (415) 744-2424

Action Item

Provide regional environmental justice small grant workshops

Region 9

In FY 1997, Region 9's Environmental Justice Team under the Cross-Media Division conducted a series of Environmental Justice Grant Workshops throughout the region. The purpose of these workshops was to clarify the process involved in applying for an environmental justice small grant and to ensure that communities impacted by environmental justice issues are aware of this and other EPA grant programs that might be of assistance to them. Local community groups that co-hosted each workshop include: *Don't Waste Arizona* in South Phoenix, AZ; *Concerned Citizens of South Central, Mothers of East Los Angeles*, and *Communities for a Better Environment* in Los Angeles; *Environmental Health Coalition* in San Diego; and the *African American Development Corporation* and *Asian Pacific Environmental Network* in Oakland.

In FY 1999, the Environmental Justice Team participated in four grant workshops and two conference calls to provide information on the program. It received forty-three grant applications and forwarded its recommended finalists to EPA Headquarters. The total grant budget is \$200,000 (a 50% reduction from FY 1998).

Completed Milestones

02/29/97	South Phoenix, Arizona. Environmental Justice grant workshop and Strategy meeting.
02/03/97	South Central Los Angeles, California. Environmental Justice grant workshop and community strategy meeting.
02/04/97	Barrio Logan, San Diego, California. Grant workshop, neighborhood tour, and community strategy meeting.
02/06/97	West Oakland, California. Environmental Justice grant workshop.
FY99	Four grant workshops and two conference calls.

Contact

Romel Pascual, (415) 744-1212

Action Item

Encourage contractors to hire workers in "labor surplus" areas

Region 9

Region 9's Superfund staff continue to share employment information and opportunities with minority training programs in the San Francisco Bay Area. These network relationships have led to the employment of minority training students at Superfund sites. The minority training program, which is funded by EPA through the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), helps train and employ community members who live near Superfund sites.

Action Item

Award Environmental Justice Grants

Region 4

The Waste Management Division, Environmental Justice Team awarded six Environmental Justice Small Grants during FY 1997 and FY 1998.

The first grant (\$25,000) was awarded in September 1997 to Florida State University for development of a Saturday-at-the-Sea Project, and will end on December 31, 1998. The Saturday-at-the-Sea Project focuses on rural, low-income communities and includes teacher workshops and a youth camp focused on preserving Florida's coastal environment. Students are taken to coastal areas for "open-air" classes where they gather samples to be taken back to the classroom for analysis.

The second grant (\$99,898) was awarded in October 1997 to the University of South Florida for development of an Environmental Justice/Pollution Prevention Project that focused on the education of household hazardous materials to reduce community pollution. The project ended December 31, 1999. Under this grant, two of Florida's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's) and the Urban League were chosen to conduct demonstration projects focused on preventive approaches to environmental management.

The third grant (\$24,950) was awarded in September 1997 to the University of Louisville Research Foundation for development of a Louisville Urban Environmental Leadership Program. The grant expired in February 1999. The purpose of this grant is to educate community leaders about human health threats from environmental pollutants so they can help improve communication between disadvantaged, and low income citizens who often bear the greatest burden of environmental justice and environmental regulatory requirements.

The fourth grant (\$48,359) was awarded to Tennessee Technological University for development of an Environmental Curricula for the South Chattanooga Community. The grant expired on December 31, 1998. This project will convert two existing environmental education curricula produced in print media to digitized, multimedia compact disk (CD) format. Through workshops, educators and community leaders will be trained to use the curricula for both self-paced study and classroom instruction to empower students and residents to make informed decisions regarding chemical health risks and safety issues in their community.

The fifth grant (\$20,000) was awarded in September 1997 for one-year to the Hyde Park and Aragon Park Improvement Committee in Augusta, Georgia. This project was designed to help residents living in the Hyde Park and Aragon Park areas to recognize warning signs of contamination in their neighborhoods. The grant was intended to educate and improve communication in the environmental justice community through a series of activities, including seminars/workshops, speakers, community grass-roots activist, and environmental activist.

The sixth grant (\$20,000) was awarded to Southern Appalachian Recycling in Ermine, Kentucky and will last from August 1997 until May 1998. This grant was to be used to implement a recycling education program for low-income communities, and to start recycling programs in area schools.

Completed Milestones

8/97	A \$20,000 grant was awarded to Southern Appalachian Recycling in Ermine, Kentucky, to implement a recycling education program for low-income communities and to start recycling programs in area schools.
9/97	A \$25,000 grant was awarded to Florida State University for development of a Saturday-at-the-Sea Project.
9/97	A \$24,950 grant was awarded to the University of Louisville Research Foundation for implementation of the Louisville Urban Environmental Program.
9/97	A \$20,000 grant was awarded to the Hyde Park and Aragon Park Improvement Committee to help residents understand their environmental problems.
10/97	A \$99,898 grant was awarded to University of South Florida for development of an Environmental Justice/Pollution Prevention Project. A \$48,359 grant was awarded to Tennessee Technological University for transfer of an Environmental Curricula to CD-ROM for delivery to the South Chattanooga Community.
7/98	Two additional sections will be added to Tennessee Technological University's CD-ROM version of the environmental education curricula.
Summer 1998	The University of Louisville Research Foundation developed the curricula for the Urban Environmental Leadership Program and scheduled classes to begin Fall 1998. Graduation is scheduled for February 1999 in order to allow students to complete their community environmental projects.
Fall 1998	A series of seminars to educate minority and poor residents on the health risks of hazardous household materials were held.

Contact

Eddie L. Wright, (404) 562-8669

In July 1994, the first Teacher's Environmental Institute, which was developed by Region 4, was held at Clark Atlanta University (CAU). To date, more than 350 teachers have attended the Institutes held at CAU, North Carolina State University (FY 1998), Murray State University (FY 1998), Florida A&M University (FY 1998) and the Medical University of South Carolina (FY 1998). Teachers trained under the Institute have trained more than 30,000 high school and middle school students.

Completed Milestones

7/94	The first Teacher's Environmental Institute was held at CAU.
FY98	Additional Teacher's Environmental Institutes were held at North Carolina State University, and the Medical University of South Carolina.

Contact

Eddie L. Wright, (404) 562-8669

Action Item

Award Environmental Education Grants with an Environmental Justice Theme

Region 5

During the period of October 1996 through September 1997, Region 5 received approximately 165 environmental education proposals requesting more than \$1.7 million in funds. Grant proposals went through a rigorous evaluation process and between 20 and 25 awards are made each year. Applications were screened and then rated by an internal environmental education workgroup consisting of EPA employees with varied expertise in the environmental and education fields. The proposals were scored according to how well they met the evaluation criteria published in EPA's Request for Proposals. Region 5 awarded a total of \$190,000 in grant funds to 25 recipients in the states of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Completed Milestones

11/97	FY98 environmental education grant proposals due to Region 5.
Spring 1998	Announcement of FY98 grant awards.
6/99	Region 5 awards its FY99 grants.
8/99	The Environmental Education program issued its 1999/2000 Request for Proposals.
11/99	FY00 environmental education proposals due to Region 5.
Spring 2000	Announcement of grant awards.

Contact

Suzanne Saric, (312) 353-3209

Federal Interagency Cooperation

Action Items:

Develop pilot projects with other federal agencies to address environmental justice concerns.	52
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Increase and improve coordination between federal agencies to avoid duplication of efforts and ensure coordination on environmental justice issues.	53
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Topic Area: Federal Interagency Cooperation

Action Item

Develop pilot projects with other federal agencies to address environmental justice concerns

Region 2

In FY 1998, Region 2 used the Regional Administrator's Work Group, the Environmental Justice Coordinator's activities, and the Brownfields Inter-Agency Work Group to coordinate activities with other federal agencies to address environmental justice concerns. In addition, the Regional Administrator and Division Directors meet on a regular basis with heads of tribes to discuss crosscutting issues.

In FY 1999, the Council on Environmental Quality convened an Environmental Justice Initiative in New York City. The regional offices of EPA and HUD are the lead agencies responsible for coordinating follow-up activities with other federal agencies.

Completed Milestones

FY99 Annual Senior Management/Tribal Leaders meeting.

FY99 Preliminary development of Region 2's Urban Environment Initiative.

FY99 Convening of Brownfields Interagency Work Group.

Contact

Vincent Pitruzzello, (212) 637-4354

Region 7

In FY 1997, Region 7 participated with HUD, ATSDR, Noidea, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Missouri Department of Health, St. Francois County Health Department, and the Doe Run Company in a joint strategy to address elevated blood lead levels in the children of St. Francois County. From this effort, it was found that 17% of St. Francois County's children under six years of age had elevated levels of lead in their blood. None of the individual agencies has the authority to address all of the identified sources in all homes in the community. However, working jointly enabled them to develop a solution to the lead problem.

Contact

Jack Generaux, (913) 551-7690

Action Item

Increase and improve coordination between federal agencies to avoid duplication of efforts and ensure coordination on environmental justice issues

Region 2

In Region 2, the Camden Pilot organized a symposia to highlight economic development tools for small business development, business retention, and expansion in the brownfield target area. To support local goals, EPA coordinated with HUD and EDA in the planning of this event.

The Buffalo EPA Brownfields Pilot Manager is a member of the Buffalo Urban Resources Partnership, a local initiative with diverse federal, state, and local agencies and non-profit organizations addressing a broad urban environmental agenda through funding provided by USDA.

Regional staff met with GSA staff to explore potential reuse of federal properties. The Regional Administrator and Division Directors met with heads of tribes to discuss crosscutting issues.

Contact

Lawrence D'Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Native American/Tribal Issues

Action Items:

Provide technical assistance and resources for Indian tribes and Native Americans.	55
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Topic Area: Native American/Tribal Issues

Action Item

Provide technical assistance and resources for Indian tribes and Native Americans

Office of Solid Waste & Emergency Response

The Office of Solid Waste (OSW) Tribal Program is responsible for developing and implementing Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Subtitle C and D programs in Indian Country. The goal of this program is to encourage comprehensive integrated hazardous and solid waste management practices in Indian Country that are protective of human health and the environment by: building tribal capacity for developing and implementing waste management policies/programs; supporting tribal governments as they develop sustainable organizational infrastructures; and building partnerships among tribes, federal agencies, states, and local communities.

A major part of OSW's Tribal Program is the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Indian Team. Since FY 1996, the MSW Indian Team has been developing a national MSW Strategy for Indian Country. The goal of this strategy is to promote integrated solid waste management practices on Indian lands. OSW also focused attention to hazardous waste issues to address the growing interest tribes have for integrated waste management practices.

Completed Milestones

Financial Assistance/Technical Assistance

- FY97 Initiated the MSW Grant Program for Indian Country.
- FY97 Developed guidance for municipal solid waste landfill owners/operators, which describes the process for MSWLF owners and operators in Indian Country to submit requests for site-specific rulemaking to provide flexibility based on site-specific factors.
- FY97 Allocated \$270,000 to EPA's Regional Offices for Regional RCRA priority projects and to continue the RCRA Tribal Circuit Riders program and allocated \$140,000 to Region 10 for Alaska Native Village solid waste demonstration projects.

Outreach

- FY97 Developed several publications to support Tribal governments and their communities directly in managing their solid waste.

Education

- FY 96 Funded the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) at Northern Arizona University, to identify training needs for Tribal environmental and solid waste personnel.
- FY 96 Initiated the development of a RCRA training component that will address Mining Technical Information Exchange for Indian tribes.

FY96 OSW revised the EPA Internet homepage structure to improve access to Tribal environmental information both for EPA and for outside sources. Also, OSW initiated development of its municipal solid waste tribal homepage.

Partnerships

FY97 Participated in the OSWER Integrated Waste Management Initiative that developed the proposal guidance and evaluated/ranked Tribal financial assistance applications. Four tribes were awarded Integrated Waste Management Initiative grants.

FY97 Conducted outreach to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) - Central Office, Phoenix and Navajo Area Offices, to discuss RCRA issues.

FY97 Supported the efforts of EPA's Regional Offices in establishing Regional Inter-Agency Workgroups and will expand activities with the other Federal agencies.

Strategic Planning

FY97 Developed an OSW Tribal Strategic Plan for Subtitle C and D program areas to outline status, data needs and future direction of the Tribal Program.

FY97 Developed a draft MSW Strategy to guide FY 97 work activities.

FY97 Funded the National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC) to facilitate meetings with tribes around the country to discuss municipal solid waste issues.

Contact

Stephen B. Etsitty, (703) 305-3194

Region 5

Region 5's Superfund Division has a "blueprint" that covers the Emergency Response Branch (ERB), the Remedial Response Branch (RRB), and the Office of Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention (OCEPP) as their program relates to Tribal activities.

Completed Milestones

Activities performed during FY97-98 by Region 5's Superfund program:

- Superfund staff attended the national train-the-trainer workshop titled "Working Effectively with Tribal Governments."
- The Superfund Division and the Minnesota Superfund Consortium (Minnesota Environmental Response Team, MTERT) expanded the scope of work for their existing cooperative agreement and awarded additional site assessment funds to the MTERT to develop tribal capabilities in assessing potential hazardous waste sites within tribal jurisdiction as well as emergency response.
- Superfund staff continue working closely with the Leech Lake Reservation in Minnesota to develop a comprehensive work plan for further evaluation of the St. Regis Paper Superfund Site.
- Regional experts continued to assist the Bad River Reservation in Wisconsin in the evaluation of the paper lagoons impacting the Reservation.

- The Superfund Division assisted the Prairie Island Indian Community in Minnesota in the coordination of the Fourth National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management, which was hosted by the Tribe.
- The ERB and the OCEPP joined forces to coordinate and instruct two Title III training sessions at a first Responder-Awareness Level courses; one hosted by the Hannaville Reservation in Michigan and the other by the Fond du Lac Band of Chippewa in Minnesota.
- The Superfund Division assisted the Waste Management and Toxic Substances Division in the evaluation of the Mole Lake Dump site on the Mole Lake Reservation in Wisconsin. A similar project is being developed with the Red Cliffs Reservation in Wisconsin.
- Superfund training was offered on tribal lands in Wisconsin and Minnesota. The Oneida Reservation hosted three training courses: Air Monitoring for Hazardous Materials, Introduction to Preliminary Assessment, and Introduction to Site Inspection. The Leech Lake Reservation hosted one training course: Introduction to Groundwater Investigation.
- Regional staff actively participated in the development of Headquarters' "State and Tribal Enhanced Role in Superfund Plan." This plan resulted from a Headquarters initiative to develop components of a comprehensive strategy to empower states and tribes to take the lead responsibility for Superfund in the years following the program's reauthorization. A pilot project is under development with the Leech Lake Reservation that will develop tribally-sensitive risk assessment criteria.

Contact

Rey Rivera, (312) 886-1450

Region 6

In the Summer of 1998, the Pueblo Office of Environmental Protection (POEP) submitted three proposals and the Intertribal Environmental Council of Oklahoma (ITEC) submitted one proposal for Superfund Tribal pilot projects, which is an initiative to enhance the role of states and tribes in the Superfund program. In September 1998, all four proposals were accepted and funded.

The three POEP projects were:

- The Pueblo Emergency Response Capability Pilot, which will develop a response capability that addresses potential problems from hazardous materials spills and accidents.
- A project to demonstrate the feasibility of HRS scoring that includes Indian cultural values. Lands important for medicinal plants or clays for pottery will be incorporated within HRS scoring matrices and a comparative analysis performed on a variety of waste sites.
- A project to develop a removal response capability in Pueblo Tribes to conduct cleanups of sheep dip vats that present threats to groundwater.

The ITEC proposal was for developing the capability to conduct remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) assessments. Two industrial sites within the Tar Creek Superfund site will be studied by staffs of ITEC and the Quapaw Tribe. ITEC and

Quapaw Tribe have begun a RI/FS on two industrial properties in Cardin, OK, and a second RI/FS on the Beaver Creek Watershed.

Completed Milestones

- 9/98 Funded four Superfund Tribal pilot projects; three from POEP, and one from ITEC.
- 4/99 As part of ITEC proposal, the Superfund staff and the DRA met with leaders of four tribes impacted by the Tar Creek Site.

Region 7

In FY 1997, the Environmental Program Directors from five of Region 7's nine tribes attended a meeting with EPA staff at the Regional Office in Kansas City. One half-day was devoted to presenting the tribes with information about the Brownfields initiative. The presentation also included general information on the Superfund program and all funding sources related to Superfund and Brownfields for which the tribes may be eligible.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 Held a meeting with Environmental Program Directors from five of Region 7's nine tribes to present information about the Brownfields initiative.

Region 9

Region 9 hosted the Sixth Annual Tribal EPA Conference at the Presidio on November 17-19, 1998, which was attended by approximately 400 Tribal representatives. The conference objective was to share with the tribes information on environmental laws and available grant programs, identify ways that EPA can assist the tribes, and provide the tribes with technical assistance for developing their plans and programs. Region 9's Air, Water, Waste, Superfund, Cross-Media, and Quality Assurance programs participated in the conference. There were concurrent workshop sessions on GAP grants, the Drinking Water program, Tribal Groundwater and Pesticide Management Plans, the Clean Air Act Program, Development of Tribal Codes and Ordinances, Environment Enforcement, Internet for Tribes, Border XXI Workgroups, Environmental Justice and Titles VI, the Solid Waste Program, Quality Assurance and Sampling Analysis Plans, and Environmental Education. At the conference, Region 9 hosted a Superfund Workshop titled "Superfund: Tribal Success Stories." This workshop opened with an overview of the Region 9 Superfund program, a summary of the chemical emergency planning needs for all tribes, and a presentation by FEMA on their grants. This was followed by presentations by five tribes on their success stories in developing chemical emergency planning and response programs. Tribal representatives from Salish-Kootnai Tribe, Ak-Chin Tribe, Cocopah Tribe, Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians, and the Navajo Nation shared their lessons learned and their program development successes. The Tribal representatives in the audience were eager to network with presenters after the workshop ended.

Completed Milestones

- 11/98 Region 9 hosted the Sixth Annual Tribal EPA Conference.

Contacts

Jeff Inglis, (415) 744-2348
Carolyn Douglas, (415) 744-2343

In December 1998, Region 9 and Headquarters sponsored a national Tribal Risk Assessment Conference. More than one hundred tribal members from across the country attended, including Alaskan native tribes. The purpose of the conference was to gain tribal perspective on how we can better address native cultural and health risk issues as they relate to the evaluation process of the Hazard Ranking system. OSWER's State/Tribal Enhancement Plan recommended that EPA incorporate tribal risk factors and cultural values into EPA's risk assessment policies and guidance, and develop associated training. Region 9 agreed to sponsor this conference because the Washoe and several other Region 9 tribes are concerned about the impact of releases on tribal resources. EPA risk assessors, natural resource trustees, and other federal agencies also participated in this four-day conference.

Completed Milestones

12/98 Sponsored a four-day national Tribal Risk Assessment Conference.

Contacts

Carolyn Douglas and Vicki Rosen, (415) 744-2187

Region 10

For the last three years, Region 10 targeted 40-hour Health and Safety Training—also known as “Hazwoper”—in areas where there is a potential for local residents to be employed on nearby hazardous material clean-up sites. During the first year, the effort focused on Kellogg, Idaho. The last two years focused on native villages in rural Alaska. Twenty-one courses have been presented and two are scheduled. Native populations account for 95% of the students. Region 10 covered the cost of the training through use of the Ecology and Environment contractor under its START contract. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) co-sponsored the training and provided assistance in prioritizing the locations for training.

EPA also presented a 40-hour Hazwoper course in Colville, Washington, where many students were from the Colville Reservation. A 6-hour awareness course and a 16-hour operations level course are scheduled for delivery to the Clallam Tribe in Port Angeles, Washington.

Completed Milestones

11/96 - 5/97 Ten 40-hr Hazwoper courses in Alaskan native villages.

Contact

Walt Jaspers, (206) 553-0285

To respond to the magnitude of contaminant and waste management problems on tribal lands, Region 10's Office of Waste and Chemicals Management (OWCM) is giving extensive resources to single tribal communities for a period of two years, with the vision that significant change is possible. At the same time, Region 10's contaminant/watershed approach draws on resources from other EPA programs for sampling and assessments, training, and educational materials, and is community-based in nature.

Region 10 also is working to determine whether subsistence foods in Alaska are safe for human consumption. As part of this effort, Region 10 is working with the University of Alaska—Anchorage and the Alaska Native Science Commission in a cooperative agreement to develop a database to evaluate what we know and do not know about contamination to the subsistence food chain.

Completed Milestones

9/96 - 9/97	Initiated two community-based projects; one in Alaska and another in Washington State.
12/97	Subsistence database prototype completed.

Contact

Fran Stefan, (206) 553-6639

The Puyallup Tribe applied for and received a \$100,000 brownfields grant to examine the redevelopment potential of the Reichhold Chemicals, Inc., property, which is a former chemical manufacturing facility located on approximately 52 acres of land in Tacoma's Commencement Bay industrial area. This facility is contaminated with hazardous waste from past activities at the site, and is subject to a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit. The grant will help the Puyallup Tribe prepare an environmental assessment, economic development plan, and wetlands mitigation and drainage plan for the site. The Puyallup Tribe's long range plans for the area include the establishment of a state-of-the-art marine terminal on Blair Waterway.

Contact

Robbie Hedeon, (206) 553-0201

Over the last three years, Region 10's Alaska EPA AmeriCorps program has helped to build capacity in Alaska's native villages for community-based environmental management, focusing primarily on solid waste management and sanitation. Beginning in 1995, and each year since then, the program has selected fifteen rural villages, recruited an AmeriCorps

member from each village, provided them training on a quarterly basis, and given them ongoing program support. The AmeriCorps member serves as environmental educator, motivator, and organizer in their community to improve environmental conditions. All AmeriCorps members are not trained as technical experts; rather they are educators and community developers who serve as a communication link between village residents and state and federal government agencies. In FY 1996, EPA turned the program administration over to an Anchorage based non-profit organization, the Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP). With EPA's technical assistance and continued funding, this organization has done an excellent job of implementing the program.

Completed Milestones

1/97, Year 3 15 new AmeriCorps members received training.
Year 2 AmeriCorps members graduated from program.

Contact

Sally Edwards, (907) 271-6322

The Burns Paiute Tribe suffers from poverty and an unemployment rate of 25%, due primarily to the massive shut-down of the forest-products industry and the failure of other tribal ventures. The Tribe has been involved in planning-and-zoning issues in the vicinity of the Old Campsite and envisioned the site as their best potential for an economic-development project. However, due to the historical use of the property as a dump site, the environmental unknowns presented a major hurdle. Through the Brownfields Program, the Tribe requested EPA's assistance in conducting an environmental assessment of the property.

Completed Milestones

2/98 EPA conducted a field sampling investigation of the Old Campsite.
6/98 Soil and groundwater data was provided to the Burns Paiute Tribe. Since no significant environmental concerns or issues were identified, the Tribe actively pursued its plans for economic development of the site.
8/98 A casino, which employs approximately 25 to 30 employees, opened for business on the site.

Contact

Monica Tonel, (206) 553-0323

Region 10 has 267 federally-recognized tribes, which has led to major Region 10 initiatives to develop a formal Tribal Office and tribal strategy. Region 10's waste programs are striving to recognize tribes fully in three roles: through participation of their tribal members in outreach activities, in their role as a Natural Resource Trustee at many Superfund Sites, and in their role as a sovereign nation through government-to-government interactions in site

decision-making. Superfund has supported these activities by establishing a Tribal Coordinator for Superfund activities. Capacity building for tribal participation in Superfund cleanup decisions and settlements has been enhanced by financial assistance from cooperative agreements. The Site Assessment Program also has also been active in providing both technical and financial assistance to build tribal capacity.

Contact

Eric Winiecki, (206) 553-6904

In late 1997, EPA conducted an expanded site investigation at the Rayonier pulp mill site in Port Angeles, Washington. The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe has had a strong interest in the Rayonier pulp mill. The Tribe is a trustee for natural resources potentially affected by the Mill. The site is within a usual and accustomed fishing area of the Tribe. The Mill site is located off-reservation, on ceded lands. The Tribe also has strong interests in an ancient village and burial grounds at the Mill site, and has a desire to be involved in any investigations and decisions that could disturb these areas.

In March 1998, EPA and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe entered into Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which is a government-to-government agreement concerning an expanded site assessment under CERCLA at the Rayonier Paper Mill Site in Port Angeles. Under the MOU, EPA agreed to provide technical assistance to the Tribe with respect to the identification of hazardous substances that have been or may be released from the site, the toxicity of those substances, the pathways that have been or may be taken by those substances, alternatives for remediation, and related matters. EPA also agreed to notify the Tribe of activities in all stages of the CERCLA process, to offer the Tribe an opportunity to present its issues and concerns to EPA before NPL listing decisions are made, and to coordinate and consult with the Tribe during the negotiation of any settlements or other alternatives to Superfund listing. In May 1998, the Tribe entered into a supporting agency cooperative agreement to receive funding for technical support during the site assessment activities.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 Conducted an expanded site investigation at the Rayonier pulp mill site in Port Angeles, Washington.
- 3/98 EPA and the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe entered into an MOU concerning an expanded site assessment under CERCLA at the Rayonier Paper Mill Site in Port Angeles, Washington.
- 5/98 The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe entered into a supporting agency cooperative agreement to receive funding for technical support during the site assessment activities.

Contact

Joanne LaBaw, (206) 553-2594

In February 1992, Region 10 and the Tulalip Tribes signed an MOU to ensure that the Tribe has substantial, meaningful involvement in the Superfund response activities at the Tulalip Landfill, which is located on the Tulalip Indian Reservation in Washington. In March 1992, Region 10 and the Tribe entered into a cooperative agreement, which, along with extensions and subsequent agreements, has provided financial assistance for the Tribe's participation in the investigation and cleanup of the landfill. The Region 10 completed multiple settlements to provide resources for the landfill cleanup, and the Tribe is a party to all these settlements. Region 10 coordinated with the Tribe and the other natural resource trustees for the site to use natural resource damage settlement funds to restore and create wetlands to compensate for those lost due to the landfill.

Completed Milestones

8/96 1st *de minimis* settlement effective.
11/97 2nd *de minimis* settlement effective.
3/98 Three major party settlements final.
5/98 3rd *de minimis* settlement effective.
7/99 4th *de minimis* settlement effective.

Contact

Cindy Colgate, (206) 553-1815

Region 10 made efforts to enhance Tribal capacity in Alaska. EPA expanded the scope of site assessment activities at all the formerly used defense sites in Alaska to provide native American villages an assessment of environmental problems.

Contact

Amber Wong, (206) 553-4061

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality issued the U.S. Army a permit to build and operate an incineration facility to destroy chemical weapons stored at the Umatilla Army Depot Chemical Weapons Destruction Facility. The Army is building five incinerators; two incinerators to destroy liquid nerve and blister agents and three incinerators for thermal treatment of metal parts and destruction of explosives, propellants, and packaging materials that have been in contact with liquid nerve and blister agents.

Descendants of three Columbia Plateau Tribes occupy the Umatilla Indian Reservation: the Cayuse, the Walla Walla and the Umatilla Tribes. The CTUIR is the tribal government. The Tribes have treaty rights to lands ceded to the United States, which include areas that may be impacted by the chemical weapons incinerators. These rights include the rights to perform activities, such as fishing, hunting, subsistence foraging, and pasturing livestock on those lands.

The Army developed a comprehensive monitoring plan (CMP) to assess off-site impacts from the incineration facility. As part of this plan, the Army will collect data quarterly and

provide it to the CTUIR in quarterly reports. Region 10 provided technical assistance to the CTUIR for reviewing and commenting on CMP-related documents, including the sampling and analysis plan, oversight of CMP field sampling activities, review of CMP data, and participation in project-related conference calls.

Contact

Jan Palumbo, (206) 553-6702

Residents near the Pace International facility, which is located on the Yakama reservation, have complained of foul odors and adverse health effects that they attribute to emissions from the waste ponds at this facility. EPA sampled ponds and sediment, conducted air quality sampling, and plans to conduct additional sampling if the problem recurs in order to determine the cause of the problem and to impose a remedy. EPA has consulted with the Yakama Indian Nation throughout this effort.

Contact

Sylvia Burges, (206) 553-1254

In October 1998, DOJ and EPA settled a major enforcement action against FMC Corporation for violations of RCRA. Claims against FMC involve the illegal placement of ignitable and reactive hazardous waste in surface ponds, as well as the company's failure to upgrade and/or close surface ponds without required protective liners and leachate collection systems. EPA consulted with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes throughout the development of this case. The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have disagreed with various elements of the consent decree, particularly that the settlement allows FMC to cap the old waste ponds with waste left in place, and filed a brief with the court on the matter. EPA has made extensive efforts to involve the Tribes in its decision-making at this facility. The court concluded that the consent decree was fair, reasonable, in the public interest, and fulfills the United States' trust responsibilities to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and therefore approved the consent decree.

Completed Milestones

10/98 DOJ and EPA settled a major enforcement action against FMC Corporation for violations of RCRA.

Contacts

Sylvia Burges, (206) 553-1254
Linda Meyer, (206) 553-6636

EPA and the State of Washington issued a permit for storage and treatment of radioactive mixed waste and mixed PCB waste at the Allied Technology Group (ATG) facility near Hanford, Washington. Throughout the development and issuance of this permit the Nez Perce, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, and the Yakima Indian Nations were involved. Tribal concerns were of particular consideration in development of the risk assessment and the environmental impact statement for this facility.

Contact

Cathy Massimino, (206) 553-4153

Internal Training, Organization, and Program Implementation

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Topic Area: Internal Training, Organization, and Program Implementation

Action Item

Develop OSWER environmental justice strategy as part of EPA response to Executive Order 12898

Region 7

Region 7's Superfund Division designated an Environmental Justice Coordinator for the Division. The Coordinator is a member of the Regional Environmental Justice Team, which meets bimonthly for coordinating, training, and disseminating environmental justice information. The Coordinator meets with and makes presentations at staff meetings and coordinates with individual staff members on site-specific environmental justice issues.

Contact

Tom Lorenz, (913) 551-7292

Region 9

To fully integrate environmental justice considerations in Region 9's work, each of Region 9's Divisions and Offices developed an environmental justice strategy. These strategies provide staff with guidance on how to implement environmental justice in the day-to-day activities of the Region. Strategies have been developed by the Air Division, Water Division, Cross-Media Division, Superfund Division, Waste Management Division, Office of Government and Community Relations, Office of Strategic Planning and Emerging Issues, and the Policy and Management Division. Each strategy covers the main activities of the various programs from an environmental justice perspective.

The Environmental Justice Team and the Enforcement Advisory Council finalized a Regional Environmental Justice Enforcement Strategy in FY 1997. While the implementation of this strategy is region-wide, the priority area is Los Angeles.

Completed Milestones

FY97 The Environmental Justice Team and the Enforcement Advisory Council finalized a Regional Environmental Justice Enforcement Strategy.

Contact

Romel Pascual, (415) 744-1212

Action Item

Develop training to educate OSWER Headquarters and waste programs personnel and increase awareness of environmental justice issues

Region 10

Region 10's Offices of Waste and Chemical Management (OWCM) and Environmental Justice are working on a Pilot Project where environmental justice tools of specific use to OWCM will be explained and demonstrated to staff working in the RCRA program. After completion, the pilot project will be modified as necessary and presented to other regional offices. The goal of this project is to help staff better integrate environmental justice into their day-to-day activities.

Completed Milestones

- 4/97 Conducted pilot project planning.
- 4/98 Presented environmental justice tools to OWCM.

Contact

Joyce Kelly, 206-553-4029

Action Item

Develop creative pilots for addressing environmental justice concerns in specific geographic areas

Region 9

Region 9 currently is investigating the environmental and related issues affecting the West Oakland community via the Urban Environmental Justice Pilot project. Among the major issues of concern are contaminated soil and groundwater, air quality, and lead, all of which are intertwined with local planning and zoning issues, lack of communication, and health concerns.

To meet the project's goals of information-gathering and community-networking, EPA convened focus group meetings to gain the community's perspective on environmental issues. A wide variety of issues were raised at these meetings, including concerns regarding zoning, contamination from past and present industrial activities, truck traffic, and perceived impacts of the new Cypress freeway construction. In addition, a CERCLIS record search was conducted to assist the City of Oakland's Community Building Team (CBT) efforts to avoid siting grassroots vacant lot beautification projects on contaminated areas.

Region 9 also is involved in an Environmental Task Force, which was established after vinyl chloride contamination was found on an industrial property adjacent to residential property. This Task Force, which is comprised of residents, regulators, and other environmental health professionals, meets monthly to respond to community concerns and develop a long-term collaborative strategy for addressing environmental concerns in West Oakland.

Two grant projects requested by the community have been completed. The first project, the West Oakland Defensible Space Assessment, focused on mapping all known environmentally-sensitive sites and spills, projecting impact zones in the event of a release, and training community members on how to respond to a HAZMAT Emergency. The second project, the development of an “Oakland Responding to Emergencies: Hazardous Materials Awareness and Preparedness Training” workbook, was developed in partnership with the West Oakland Defensible Space Assessment to provide training for community members on how to read HAZMAT symbols, how to recognize HAZMAT hazards in the home, and what to do during and after a chemical emergency.

In the future, Region 9 plans to hold a West Oakland Environmental Justice Conference to celebrate the community's success in leadership of environmental issues; conduct further sampling at the DC Metals Site to further characterize the site; and provide oversight on the Caltrans cleanup and development of the South Prescott Neighborhood Park.

Completed Milestones

- FY98 Developed innovative urban model for multi-stakeholder partnerships to address community-based environmental justice issues.
- FY98 Facilitated environmental actions at facilities in West Oakland, including Precision Cast, DC Metals, and Cal Tech Metal Finishers.
- FY98 Encouraged the City of Oakland to apply general plan restrictions on mixed use zoning in West Oakland.
- FY98 Promoted community empowerment efforts through EPA training and technical support.
- FY98 Facilitated a strong local, state, and federal partnership through the development of a regulator task force.
- FY98 Coordinated with the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and the Port of Oakland for the placement of two air monitors to collect data on particulates (PM-10 and PM-2.5), an issue raised by the community in relation to truck traffic.
- FY98 Meet monthly with regulators and other participating agencies to take a more proactive approach to coordinating community involvement and development of environmental management strategy.

Contact

Carla Moore, (415) 744-1938



Region 9 is participating in an Environmental Justice Pilot Project in Watsonville, California, to help identify and implement environmental solutions. Region 9's primary role in this effort has been to facilitate discussions among stakeholders to work towards solutions to the environmental issues facing Watsonville. Based on discussions with stakeholders—particularly community and regulatory representatives—the pilot project team has decided to focus its attention on farm worker safety and housing issues.

As part of this effort, Region 9 recently convened an interagency meeting with HUD to discuss Watsonville's housing issues. Region 9 invited to this meeting several other agencies that deal specifically with housing issues, including the County Housing Authority and City

Housing Staff, as well as community members who could share their knowledge and experience. As a follow-up to this meeting, Region 9 is planning additional meetings with other stakeholders to identify solutions to the concerns raised at the meeting. For example, Region 9 will work with USDA's Rural Development Office, the Rural Community Assistance Corporation, and local planning entities to address the housing needs in Watsonville. Region 9 also will continue to work with Cal-OSHA and other regulators in regards to farm worker safety issues.

The Watsonville Environmental Justice Pilot Project team also is working closely with the Pajaro Valley Unified School District to reduce the use of chemicals for pest management on school grounds using Integrated Pest Management (IPM). EPA and the School District have assembled a committee of parents, teachers, and district staff to find alternative methods for controlling indoor and outdoor pests on all campuses in the District. The California Department of Pesticide Regulation also joined in this collaboration.

Completed Milestones

- FY98 Developed an innovative rural model for multi-stakeholder partnerships to address community-based environmental justice issues.
- FY98 Increased communication among affected parties through the development of Regulator/Stakeholder Workgroup.
- FY98 Conducted UST/LUST inspections in coordination with County regulators.
- FY98 Initiated partnerships between local government and nonprofit organizations to address housing shortages.
- FY98 Championed farm worker health and safety issues locally and at the state level.
- FY98 Assembled a committee of parents, teachers, school district representatives, and California DPR staff to help develop an IPM program for the Pajaro Valley School District.
- FY98 Awarded a \$30,000 grant to the Pajaro Valley School District to hire a technical consultant to provide IPM training to school maintenance staff.

Contact

Norman Calero, (415) 744-1586

Action Item

Establish a centralized focal point and coordinator for environmental justice issues

Region 9

Region 9 established an Environmental Justice Team to develop and implement a strategy responsive to the needs and concerns of communities impacted by environmental justice issues. The Environmental Justice Team recently added two additional staff members and currently consists of seven full time staff. The Team coordinates its environmental justice efforts on a geographic and policy-driven framework. To support this effort, Region 9 designated Environmental Justice Program Liaisons to function as points of contact for environmental justice issues within Region 9's various Divisions and Offices. In addition, a Regional Environmental Justice Steering Committee, which consists of senior

management, was established to develop and guide Region 9's environmental justice strategy.

Completed Milestones

FY98 The Environmental Justice Team added two additional staff members.

Contact

Romel Pascal, (415) 744-1212

Action Item

Revise and expand environmental justice training module. Develop training to educate personnel and increase awareness of environmental justice issues

Region 9

The Environmental Justice Team in Region 9 conducted a series of environmental justice training sessions for EPA staff. These training sessions aim to raise awareness and knowledge of environmental justice and share insights and approaches for incorporating environmental justice concepts into daily work. These sessions also are designed to encourage participant interaction through lecture, interactive exercises, and brainstorming sessions. Currently, Region 9 offers two types of environmental justice training: a general training course, which discuss concepts, theories, and practical applications of environmental justice; and a division/media-specific training course, which focuses on strategic planning and implementation of environmental justice in daily operations.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 Increased environmental justice awareness through region-wide environmental justice training; 150 staff members attended.
- FY98 Provided region-wide environmental justice training to increase environmental justice awareness.
- FY 97-98 Provided divisional/program specific environmental justice training for Superfund, Air, Toxics Section, Border Team.
- FY 97-98 Held brown bag discussions with environmental justice leaders, including NEJAC members Richard Moore and Dr. Charles Lee.
- FY97-98 Conducted environmental justice training sessions for three external agencies: Alameda County's Environmental Service Division, DOD, and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Contact

Running Grass, (415) 744-1205

Waste Programs
Environmental Justice

Program-Specific Issues

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)

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Topic Area: Resource Conservation and Recovery Act

Action Item

Siting of new facilities—evaluate location standards, environmental justice issues, and setback distances and develop guidance to provide technical assistance to state, tribal, and local governments

Office of Solid Waste

In 1997, OSW published “Sensitive Environments and the Siting of Hazardous Waste Management Facilities.” This publication informs communities of the technical considerations in locating hazardous waste management facilities in certain areas, which, because of their soils, terrain, groundwater, or weather conditions, may pose significant risks of releases and possible exposures to humans and the environment.

As a companion brochure, per a suggestion by the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) Waste and Facility Siting Subcommittee, OSW has been developing a social siting brochure that addresses some of the social considerations in locating a hazardous waste management facility. This draft brochure, however, is directed at industry and state, tribal, and local government agencies. Its intent is to develop an increased awareness of the quality-of-life concerns that become real issues in the siting of hazardous waste management facilities. The draft document also provides some information on the basic tools and mechanisms used to address issues that often fall outside the scope of the RCRA mandate to protect human health and the environment.

The draft social siting brochure was submitted for an internal EPA review and review by the NEJAC Waste and Facility Siting Subcommittee. Following this internal review, OSW sponsored a Roundtable to obtain stakeholder views on addressing quality-of-life issues in relation to the siting of RCRA hazardous waste facilities. This Roundtable is an intermediary step towards improving the accuracy and utility of the current draft social siting brochure. Points and comments from the Roundtable discussions will assist the EPA in developing a brochure that realistically portrays community quality-of-life concerns and the possible tools and mechanisms for addressing them. The projected date for the finalization of the brochure is January 1, 1999.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 Published “Sensitive Environments and the Siting of Hazardous Waste Management Facilities.”
- 8/98 Completed initial draft of the social siting brochure.
- 12/98 Presented and submitted for review the draft social siting brochure to the NEJAC Waste and Facility Siting Subcommittee at Baton Rouge NEJAC meeting.
- 12/98 Submitted the draft social siting brochure to NEJAC Public Participation Subcommittee members via e-mail.
- 1/99 Distributed the draft social siting brochure for review via e-mail to environmental justice coordinators.
- 3/99 Distributed the draft social siting brochure to RCRA Permit Contacts for review.
- 4/99 The draft social siting brochure reviewed by OGC.

- 5/99 Revised the draft social siting brochure based on internal reviews.
- 7/99 Held a Stakeholder Roundtable.

Contact

Freya Margand, (703) 605-0633

Action Item

Utilize the geographic information system in RCRA

Region 8

Region 8 used GIS technology to identify and address environmental justice issues and prioritize sites in the region.

Completed Milestones

- 5/97 Developed GIS applications that facilitate the gathering of demographic and facility data. The data, which are site and/or county specific, allow for the identification of environmental justice concerns.
- 7/97 Planned outreach and training programs for EPA, state staff, and community minority groups on use of GIS information.

Contact

Elisabeth Evans, (303) 312-6053

Action Item

RCRA Corrective Action—conduct an investigation and cleanup of a RCRA facility

Region 1

Under RCRA Corrective Action authority, Region 1 is conducting an investigation and cleanup of the Lake Success Business Park (also known as Sporting Goods Properties, formerly Remington Arms) in Bridgeport and Stratford, Connecticut. Region 1 is approaching this 422-acre site in a phased manner to allow for its redevelopment as a business park.

Completed Milestones

- FY98 Completed the removal of lead-contaminated soil in several areas on the Stratford portion of the property.



The RCRA, SPCC, UST, and EPCRA programs conducted approximately 100 inspections in urban areas during FY 1998. These programs initiated 21 formal enforcement actions,

which proposed over \$1,710,000 in penalties, and settled 19 formal actions, resulting in penalties amounting to \$562,000.

Region 1's Public Agency Team supported a major enforcement action against the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT), Hartford City of Public Works, and Hartford MDC for penalties totaling over \$800,000. This enforcement action resulted in development of the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP), which will provide nearly \$400,000 to remove lead from dozens of day care facilities deemed to be at high risk.

Region 1's Urban Enforcement and Assistance Team addressed health and environmental concerns in targeted urban areas. The Team has been responsible for directing Region 1 in addressing specific environmental concerns, such as EPCRA non-reporting and dioxin in the Woonasquatucket River. The EPCRA program has been successful in targeting fish processors who do not report their storage of ammonia, which is a major concern for New Bedford's fire department. In an effort to address the contamination in the Woonasquatucket River, a reconnaissance effort was launched in the River Basin. To date, over 50 inspections have occurred. The Team also supported an enforcement action against the Genzyme Corporation, which resulted in a SEP to support restoration efforts in the Charles and Mystic Rivers.

Completed Milestones

- FY98 The RCRA, SPCC, UST, and EPCRA programs conducted approximately 100 inspections in urban areas.
- FY98 Region 1's Public Agency Team supported a major enforcement action against RIDOT, Hartford City of Public Works, and Hartford MDC for penalties totaling over \$800,000.
- FY98 Region 1's Urban Enforcement and Assistance Team addressed health and environmental concerns in targeted urban areas.

During FY 1998, compliance and pollution prevention assistance activities were conducted throughout New England, with a strong emphasis on an urban area surrounding the Lower Charles River in Massachusetts, which is surrounded in part by environmental justice communities. Eighty-eight of 104 visits were made to the communities surrounding this urban river. These visits consisted of audits at repair and body shops and education of shop employees about proper floor drain connections and the results of mismanagement of fluids. In addition to these site visits, eight workshops were conducted in both urban and rural environmental justice areas. The New England Environmental Assistance Team is in the process of evaluating these efforts to determine whether compliance improvements have been made after receiving assistance.

Completed Milestones

- FY98 Made 104 visits to the communities surrounding the Lower Charles River in Massachusetts.
- FY98 Conducted eight workshops in environmental justice areas.

Action Item

RCRA Corrective Action—incorporate public involvement into post closure requirements

Office of Solid Waste

OSW incorporated public involvement provisions in its Post-Closure Rule. This rule removed the requirement to issue a permit to address post-closure care in all cases. A permit remains an option, but the rule allows regulators to use other mechanisms as well, depending on the circumstances at the facility. The rule requires public involvement at three key stages of the cleanup process when alternate authorities are used in lieu of post-closure permits: 1) at the beginning of the cleanup process; 2) at remedy selection; and 3) when the Agency decides corrective action is complete.

Completed Milestones

10/98 Final rule published.

Contact

Barbara Foster, (703) 308-7057

Action Item

RCRA Corrective Action—enhance community involvement including greater public access to information on cleanup progress

Office of Solid Waste

On July 8, 1999, EPA announced the RCRA Cleanup Reforms, which are designed to achieve faster, more efficient cleanup at RCRA sites that treat, store, or dispose of hazardous waste and have potential environmental contamination. An important component of these reforms is enhanced public involvement.

EPA will continue to emphasize the importance of meaningful public involvement throughout RCRA cleanups. EPA also will convene workshops with stakeholders in 1999. Through these workshops, EPA's Regions hope to better understand the public's concerns, as well as gather suggestions for further improvements to the corrective action program.

EPA will post information on cleanup progress for individual facilities on the Internet. With this information, the Regions hope to generate greater public interest and awareness in corrective action at individual facilities and enhance the community's ability to become more involved in decisions about the cleanup. This information will allow stakeholders to monitor progress at facilities in their area as well as overall progress in the corrective action program. Additional information is available at: www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/cleanup.htm.

Completed Milestones

07/99 RCRA Cleanup Reforms Press Announcement.

Contact

Kevin Donovan, (703) 308-8761

Action Item

Incorporate environmental justice priorities into the RCRA Beginning of Year Plan (BYP)

Office of Solid Waste

The Beginning of the Year Plan (BYP) has served as a forum for EPA's Regions to highlight accomplishments and identify implementation problem areas in the RCRA program. In addition, the BYP provides a view into the Regions' approach to, and success at, meeting Agency-wide goals. Although a discussion of environmental justice initiatives were encouraged in past BYPs, the FY 1999 BYP was the first to require Regions to report on their strategies and activities for addressing environmental justice concerns within the RCRA program.

Completed Milestones

11/98 BYP guidance submitted to the Regions for comment.
12/98 - 4/99 Calls to discuss Regional BYP submissions.
8/99 FY 2000 BYP Guidance completed.

Contact

Freya Margand, (703) 605-0633

Action Item

Spatial Analysis of the Potential RCRA Hazardous Waste Facility Sitings in Relation to Demographic Information for Environmental Justice Concerns: GIS evaluation of new facilities

Office of Solid Waste

OSW decided to update and analyze potential RCRA hazardous waste management facility sitings over the next ten years with regard to environmental justice issues. The original Location Standards Rulemaking Questionnaire was sent to EPA's Regional Offices in the fall of 1995. Questionnaire responses gave OSW information on the status, identification, location, and associated attributes of these facilities. The coordinates of these proposed facility sites were corrected by contractors as of June 11, 1998. Regional staff also reviewed the coordinates and added additional facilities to the original list. Maps were generated for

the facilities on the list (about 80 sites). The maps depict population density, people of color, and poverty level for each site at the five and two mile radius.

The information from this effort will enable OSW to perform spatial analysis using standard demographic maps in relation to these particular sites. This siting information will be able to link to the associated census data to aid in determining potential environmental justice issues. In addition, this analysis will assist in laying the groundwork to determine where OSW can concentrate its efforts in the near future.

Completed Milestones

Fall 1995	Location Standards Rulemaking Questionnaire sent to EPA's Regional Offices.
6/98	Coordinates identified and the list of facilities amended.
4/99	Maps and demographic information developed for the facilities on list.
9/99	Information to be made available on the web.

Contact

Tab Sommer, (703) 605-0636

Action Item

Conduct a State Siting Study.

Office of Solid Waste

In an attempt to understand the siting provisions at the state level, OSW gathered information for about half of the states on the following topics: administration (duties and responsibilities), local community needs and involvement, public participation, siting restrictions and prohibitions, environmental justice and equity considerations, and economic and other practical criteria. One purpose for this study was to determine the considerations the states have for environmental justice issues. The information received from the contractors was sent to each state-implementing agency to review, and their suggested changes were incorporated, as were other corrections suggested by EPA Headquarters. This information will be made available on the Intranet at the PSPD website under "Environmental Justice."

Completed Milestones

12/95	The initial state siting study was delivered by the contractors.
6/98	The provisions were sent to the states for review.
4/99	The suggested changes were received and incorporated.
4/99	The environmental justice considerations from the states were reviewed and consolidated in a document.
8/99	Additional changes to the study were made (as suggested by EPA Headquarters staff).
9/99	The provisions are to be made available on the Intranet.

Contact

Tab Sommer, (703) 605-0636

Action Item

Implement RCRA Subtitles C and D programs in Indian Country

Office of Solid Waste

OSW is working to implement RCRA Subtitles C and D programs in Indian Country through grant programs, technical assistance, its web site, and fact sheets. OSW developed a GranTrack Database to track progress and expenditures of municipal solid waste (MSW) grants that are awarded to tribes. Database entries include regional and OSWER/OSW awards, as well as MSW management grant awards from other offices. OSW is responsible for distributing grant funds from the Municipal Grant Program for Indian Country and Tribal Hazardous Waste Grant Program. In addition, OSW awarded a grant to the National Congress of American Indians for the Tribal Lands Military Munitions Rule Outreach Project. This grant enables the transfer of technical information and training on the Military Munitions Rule to tribes through several meetings, and provides tribes the opportunity to discuss military impacts with representatives from DOD. OSW also awarded a grant to the National Tribal Environmental Council to hold nine meetings to facilitate interaction between EPA, tribes, and other federal agencies with trust responsibility for solid waste issues in Indian Country.

OSW also entered into a cooperative agreement with Northern Arizona University's Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals for development of a course syllabus for an introductory solid waste management course and initiated development of a technical assistance and training directory and a website for tribal programs. OSW published two new tip sheets to assist tribal governments with implementing their integrated solid waste management programs and donated eight computers to the Havasupai and Jicarilla Apache Tribes for training on networking concepts, electronic mail, and conducting environmental research. OSW also sponsors an Internship Program and contributes funds to the EPA Tribal Lands Environmental Science Scholarship program, which is implemented by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society. OSW also was involved in a visit to the Badlands Bombing Range to obtain information on the coordination and partnership between the principals involved in the project.

In FY 1999, OSW plans to continue the internship programs 99 through ECO, and WINS and contribute funds to the EPA Tribal Lands Environmental Science Scholarship program, which was implemented by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) programs. In return for its contribution, OSW will receive one AISES intern in FY 1999. In the spring of 1999, OSW expects to publish a technical assistance and training directory, which will contain information on organizations that offer assistance to and courses available to tribes on solid waste issues. In April 1999, OSW will expand the "Municipal Solid Waste Management in Indian Country Web Site" to include hazardous waste information.

Completed Milestones

- 11/96-12/97 Through a grant to the National Tribal Environmental Council, held nine focus meetings around the country to facilitate interaction with EPA, tribes, and other federal agencies with trust responsibility for solid waste issues in Indian Country.
- 11/97-6/98 Funded an Environmental Careers Organization (ECO) Associate, who assisted with the Fourth National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management and the publication of the *Native American Network*.
- 12/97 Completed distribution of Year 2 funding for tribal recipients of Municipal Solid Waste Grant Program for Indian Country grants. These grants were awarded to eight capacity-building projects in amounts ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per year for up to three years.
- 12/97 Published two new tip sheets to assist tribal governments with implementing their integrated solid waste management programs: *Preparing Successful Grant Proposals* and *Partnerships in Solid Waste Management*.
- FY98 Provided comments to NTEC on the *Interim Final Report*.
- 1/98 Developed the "Municipal Solid Waste Management in Indian Country Web Site," which provides easy access to OSW information that specifically targets MSW management issues in Indian Country.
- 2/98 Received approval to continue funding the Navajo Nation's (Region 9) and Menominee Tribe's (Region 5) Hazardous Waste program development activities and reprogrammed funds to Region 10 for three hazardous waste projects in the native Villages of Barrow, Tanana, and Yakutat.
- 4/98 Donated eight computers to the Havasupai and Jicarilla Apache Tribes for training tribal environmental staff on basic networking concepts, electronic mail, and environmental research on the Internet. OSW plans to donate ten additional computers to tribal elementary schools in FY 1999.
- 4/98 Received a course syllabus for an introductory solid waste management course, which was developed by the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals with contributions from tribal solid waste managers, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Indian Health Service. This syllabus was developed in response to tribal requests for basic training on solid waste management issues. OSW expects delivery of a training course based on the syllabus from ITEP in April 1999.
- 6/98-8/98 Supported one native American intern from Shoshone-Bannock Tribes in Idaho through the Washington Internships for Native Students (WINS) program.
- 8/98 Traveled to Ellsworth Air Force Base, the Oglala Sioux Reservation, and the Badlands Bombing Range near Rapid City, South Dakota, to obtain more information on the coordination/partnership between the principals involved in the Badlands Bombing Range Project.
- 9/98 Awarded a grant to the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) for the Tribal Lands Military Munitions Rule Outreach Project, which provides technical information and training on the Military Munitions Rule to tribes through several meetings.
- 10/98 Attended the first Tribal Lands Military Munitions Rule Outreach Project meeting, which was held in conjunction with NCAI's 55th Annual Convention. Additional meetings are being planned for FY 1999.
- 11/98 Received *Solid Waste Management in Indian Country - Tribal Focus Groups Final Report*.

12/98 Updated the “Municipal Solid Waste Management in Indian Country Web Site.”

Contact

Stephen B. Etsitty, (703) 305-3194

Action Item

RCRA tribal implementation issues—respond to tribal concerns regarding the Backcountry Against Dumps v. EPA decision

Office of Solid Waste

OSW addressed heightened tribal government concerns about RCRA Subtitles C and D, which arose from the October 29, 1996, *Backcountry Against Dumps v. EPA* (“Campo”) decision. The U.S. Court of Appeals, DC Circuit, ruled that EPA cannot approve Tribal Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Permitting Programs, and that EPA cannot treat tribes as states under RCRA for purposes of awarding program development grant funds to tribes and approving Tribal Subtitle C Programs. The Court stated that RCRA explicitly defines tribes as municipalities, not as states.

OSW developed a process for MSWLF owners and operators in Indian Country to submit requests for site-specific rulemaking to provide flexibility based on site-specific factors. The *Site-Specific Flexibility Requests for Municipal Solid Waste Landfills in Indian Country: Draft Guidance* was developed with significant input from EPA Regional and Headquarters offices and tribal representatives.

Completed Milestones

8/97 Published and distributed draft guidance for use by landfill owners/operators in Indian Country, and received comments.

Contact

Beverly Goldblatt, (703) 308-7278

OSW developed a resolution to RCRA Subtitle C funding issues that were raised by Regions 5 and 9. The Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin in Region 5 and the Navajo Nation in Region 9 reached the five-year term under RCRA Section 8001 grant authority for Hazardous Waste program development. As a result of the *Backcountry Against Dumps v. EPA* (“Campo”) decision, EPA cannot authorize tribal hazardous waste programs, nor can EPA award tribes grants under RCRA 3011 grant authority. Working with the tribes through the Regions, the American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO), and the Office of General Counsel (OGC), OSW secured concurrence to use authority under the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program to transfer FY 1997 RCRA Section 3011 funds. These funds will be transferred to the GAP program to continue hazardous waste program capacity-building activities for the Menominee Tribe and Navajo Nation in FY 1998.

Completed Milestones

9/97 Obtained concurrence to transfer RCRA Section 3011 funds into the General Assistance Program for FY 1998.

Contacts

Stephen B. Etsitty, OSW, (703) 305-3194
Tom Wall, AIEO, (202) 260-7939

Action Item

RCRA tribal implementation issues—expand program assistance to native Alaskan villages on solid waste management issues

Office of Solid Waste

In September 1997, OSW's Acting Director traveled to Alaska with the Director of the American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) to discuss waste management issues with Alaska Native Village government representatives and Alaskan tribal organizations. OSW allocated \$100,000 to Region 10 for continued support for the Alaska Solid Waste Management Demonstration Grant. The Alaska Native Health Board is the recipient of this grant and awarded a number of small grants to Alaskan Villages to allow for site-specific solutions to solid waste management problems. OSW also allocated \$40,000 to Region 10 to assist the native Village of Selawik in addressing their uncontrolled solid waste problems and the potential impacts to the village drinking water sources.

Completed Milestones

9/97 OSW's Acting Director toured five native Alaskan villages and met with two Alaskan tribal organizations.

9/97 Additional resources were allocated to Region 10 for Alaska Native Village solid waste demonstration projects.

Contact

Stephen B. Etsitty, (703) 305-3194

Action Item

RCRA tribal implementation issues—enhance training and outreach activities, seek to leverage resources, and coordinate environmental activities among federal agencies

Office of Solid Waste

OSW initiated the Municipal Solid Waste Grant Program for Indian Country. OSW solicited proposals from all federally-recognized tribes and tribal organizations for integrated solid

waste management demonstration projects, and selected eight tribal solid waste management projects for award. The award amounts ranged from \$50,000 to \$100,000 per project per year for up to three years.

OSW funded the National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC) to facilitate meetings with tribes around the country to discuss municipal solid waste issues. Seven meetings were held in FY 1997. Additional meetings were scheduled for FY 1998. The information gathered during the meetings will assist OSW in finalizing its draft MSW Strategy and further define the Agency's role in Tribal MSW management.

OSW, in cooperation with the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO), sponsored the attendance of six tribal representatives to the August 1997 National RCRA Conference in Washington, DC. OSW Tribal Program staff presented sessions on Subtitle C and D program issues.

OSW funded the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEM) at Northern Arizona University to identify training needs for tribal environmental and solid waste personnel. In FY 1997, ITEM submitted two reports of its findings. Based on the reports, EPA provided additional funding to ITEM to 1) develop a course outline, 2) develop a directory of solid waste training courses, and 3) investigate the adaptability of existing training materials and course delivery mechanisms for tribal audiences.

OSW developed the following publications to support tribes directly in managing their solid waste: *Grant Resources for Solid Waste Activities in Indian Country*, *Publications on Solid Waste Management in Indian Country*, *Publications on Mining Waste Management in Indian Country*, *Tribal Tipsheet: Do You Know About the Upcoming Municipal Waste Landfill Deadlines?*

OSW published an issue of its revived *Native American Network*, a national newsletter that provides information on tribal environmental issues.

Completed Milestones

- 12/96 Published and distributed *Grant Resources for Solid Waste Activities in Indian Country*.
- 12/96 Published and distributed *Publications on Mining Waste Management in Indian Country*.
- 2/97 Published and distributed *Publications on Solid Waste Management in Indian Country*.
- 4/97 Received ITEM final report on tribal training needs.
- 5/97 Published and distributed *Tribal Tipsheet: Do You Know About the Upcoming Municipal Waste Landfill Deadlines?*
- 8/97 Tribal representation at the 1997 National RCRA Conference.
- 9/97 Published and distributed *Native American Network*
- 9/97 Received Interim Report from Tribal Solid Waste Focus Meetings.
- 9/97 Completed awards for MSW Grant Program for Indian Country.

Contacts

Stephen B. Etsitty, (703) 305-3194
Beverly Goldblatt, (703) 308-7278

Action Item

Identify environmental justice communities impacted by RCRA decisions

Region 10

The RCRA program identified facilities in Region 10 where environmental justice communities may be impacted by EPA's RCRA decisions. The RCRA program also worked with Region 10's Office for Civil Rights and Environmental Justice to develop a training package for environmental justice issues and programs.

Contact

Jan Palumbo, (206) 553-6702

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)

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Topic Area: Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

Action Item

Develop interim guidelines on Community Advisory Groups (CAGs) and establish CAGs at ten pilot Superfund sites

Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

OERR supports the formation of Community Advisory Groups (CAGs) at Superfund sites as a mechanism to help communities participate in the Superfund site cleanup process. A CAG is made up of representatives with diverse community interests and provides a forum for community members to present and discuss their concerns related to the Superfund process. This is beneficial to communities with minority and low-income populations that may have been overlooked in past public participation. Superfund Regional Community involvement staff are working with over 41 CAGs in nine EPA Regions.

Completed Milestones

09/97 Developed a working draft of the CAG Toolkit to assist citizens in setting up and maintaining CAGs.

09/97 Developed a CAG Toolkit for EPA Staff.

Contact

Leslie Leahy, (703) 603-9929

Region 2

Region 2 chose the Diamond Alkali Superfund site for a pilot CAG. The Diamond Alkali site is located in the Ironbound section of Newark, New Jersey. This location is a mixed use industrial/residential neighborhood with potential environmental justice concerns. The community is predominately working-class with a mixture of nationalities; predominantly Hispanic (Portuguese) and African American.

Region 2 worked with local, vocal community members to help establish the CAG in 1994. EPA hired a community relations contractor to assist with establishing a comprehensive mailing list. Self-nomination forms were issued by mail to the entire mailing list to solicit members for the CAG.

The CAG membership now includes representatives from the local neighborhood who are also members of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste. Other members include representatives from the Friends of the Passaic River, the Passaic River Coalition, the New Jersey Agent Orange Commission, the American Littoral Society (Baykeeper), and the City of Newark. In the coming year, Region 2 hopes to get more participation from residents of the public housing community located in close proximity to the site because the more vocal members of the CAG usually have not been local residents. While these members have a

great interest in the Passaic River, their issues may not reflect those of the local residential community.

The CAG membership originally decided to meet on a quarterly basis. Meetings generally occurred quarterly but were held more frequently or less frequently depending upon site activities. Meetings included general site updates, as well as discussions on specialized topics, such as: EPA's dioxin reassessment work; State of New Jersey Department of Health epidemiological work completed in the area; the Newark Bay seafood consumption advisories; and Region 2's Harbor Estuary Program.

To update the community on site activities and status, Region 2 created a web page and distributed trilingual (English, Portuguese, and Spanish) fact sheets in 1994 (summer, fall, and winter); 1995 (spring, summer, and fall), and the winter of 1996. Site activities were infrequent from 1996 to 1997. The NPL fact sheets with updates were provided to CAG members and other community members during various CAG and public meetings in 1997-1999. The Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste and Region 2 decided to revise the trilingual fact sheet, which will be distributed in winter 1999.

In addition to the CAG meetings, additional public meetings were held to discuss special site issues, such as construction of the on-site remedy and the possibility of using an on-site incinerator. Members of the CAG and other community members have toured the site on various occasions.

Completed Milestones

6/23/97	CAG Meeting.
6/8/98	CAG Meeting.
6/29/98	CAG Meeting.
7/13/98	CAG Meeting.
8/3/98	Meeting with Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste and the general public.
8/24/98	Meeting with local residents (Millard Terrel Homes).
9/10/98	Meeting with Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste Chairperson.
10/19/98	CAG Meeting.
1/20/99	Meeting with Newark Waterfront Redevelopment Office.
1/25/99	Meeting with Newark Planning Board.
2/9/99	Meeting with NJDEP and USCOE on Newark's Minish Park Project.
2/26/99	Site tour for attendees of the Environmental Law Conference and the Newark/Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste.
3/18/99	Meeting with the New York/New Jersey Harbor Estuary Program and Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission on Passaic River.
3/22/99	Meeting with Newark Planning Board.
4/21/99	CAG Meeting (on Passaic River RI work).
5/5/99	Meeting with Newark Brownfields Team.
6/25/99	Meeting with Baykeeper.
9/9/99	Meeting with CAG (review of ecological sampling program completed on river).

Contact

Sharon Jaffess, (212) 637-4396

Region 5

Since the CAG guidance was issued from EPA Headquarters in December 1995, Region 5 initiated 12 CAGs. These CAGs range from remedial to removal sites with various stages of cleanup activities underway. These CAGs developed a mission statement and basic operational procedures and are in the process of reviewing and providing comments to both the state and EPA Headquarters on documents. These CAGs developed fact sheets and newsletters and made efforts to involve the community at large in the site activities.

To help understand how the CAG process works, EPA Headquarters developed a CAG Toolkit. This Toolkit consists of sample mission statements, a guide to developing operational procedures, information on incorporation, and other items that might help a CAG get started. Region 5 gave this Toolkit to three of its CAGs and received excellent responses from the CAGs.

Region 5 conducted an informal review and evaluation of its support to CAGs at Superfund sites in order to develop a Lessons Learned document. This document provides information on six CAGs in Region 5, and was shared with EPA Headquarters and some of EPA's Regional Offices. It is available to anyone upon request.

Completed Milestones

2/97	Began to identify CAG candidates.
FY98	Continued to identify CAG cases and evaluate progress.
FY97-98	Initiated 12 CAGs.
09/98	Developed a Lessons Learned analyses for six Region 5 CAGs.

Contact

Oliver L. Warnsley, (312) 886-0442

Region 7

Region 7 conducted a Community Advisory Group workshop for the Clinton Coal Gas Superfund Site in Clinton, Iowa. The purpose of this workshop was to facilitate interaction between the community and the EPA. After a successful meeting, the community agreed to continue holding CAG meetings, which encourage on-going community involvement at the Clinton site.

Contacts

Hattie Thomas, (913) 551-7762 (Community Involvement Coordinator)
Diana Engeman, (913) 551-7746 (Remedial Project Manager)



The 57th and North Broadway Superfund site in Wichita, Kansas, contains volatile organic compounds in the groundwater. To respond to community concerns, Region 7 conducted a CAG workshop to encourage community involvement at the site.

Contacts

Hattie Thomas, Community Involvement Coordinator, (913) 551-7762
Steve Kinser, Remedial Project Manager, (913) 551-7728

Region 8

Region 8 is facilitating the formation of a CAG for the future redevelopment of the RAMP site. RAMP is a processed, low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) and mixed waste site, which was a state-regulated and radioactive hazardous waste management facility that declared bankruptcy because of state enforcement. In 1994, RAMP was designated as a Time Critical Removal Site by EPA.

Contact

Wendy Thomi, (303) 312-6025

Action Item

Establish site-specific federal coordination groups for issues outside Superfund jurisdiction

Region 2

Region 2's Environmental Justice Coordinator investigates and responds to environmental issues and complaints made to the EPA. EPA's responses are coordinated with other federal agencies, and state and local governments. Regional protocols have been issued to facilitate the response process.

Region 2's Community Based Environmental Protection (CBEP) workgroup coordinates responses to environmental concerns raised by community groups that fall outside of Superfund jurisdiction and do not readily speak to another program. Region 2's Coordinator investigates and responds to environmental justice issues raised to EPA by concerned citizen groups. Many times, environmental justice complaints involve other federal, state, and local agencies, which require extensive coordination. To facilitate faster responses, Region 2 developed protocols that are successfully implemented when there is an environmental justice complaint; this helps to ensure coordination among the agencies.

Contact

Melva Hayden, (212) 637-5027

Region 9

In 1995, several residents of McFarland, California, a small, mostly Latino community, petitioned the EPA to investigate environmental conditions in their community due to ongoing health concerns. EPA agreed to conduct an investigation in McFarland to assess the environmental conditions in drinking water, soil, and air to determine if any contaminants present are above health-based action levels, with particular concern for children.

In January 1998, Region 9 reported that the drinking water wells and the storage tank used by the community met current health standards, with the exception of two wells

contaminated with nitrates, which were treated and blended by the local water company to meet the Maximum Contaminant Level for California. In July 1998, a second round of sampling was completed, which included drinking water wells, the storage tank, water collected from faucets at all public schools and parks, and sixteen residential locations throughout the town.

In October 1998, EPA solicited public comment for its proposed soil sampling plans, which is Phase II of the investigation. In February and March 1999, soil samples were collected at nine current or former facilities where hazardous substances may have been used, two public parks, a drainage basin, and seven residences. Sampling depths ranged from the surface to 50-feet deep at some locations in response to community concerns regarding possible past disposal practices.

EPA Region 9 continues to work closely with the affected community on proposed sampling activities. The community has been actively encouraged to review and comment on proposed sampling plans as they are drafted. Staff continue to meet with members of the community on a regular basis. Current plans call for air monitoring to take place in calendar year 2000.

Completed Milestones

- 3/97 Conducted community outreach to define community concerns and issues.
- 4/97 Draft Phase I: submitted the Drinking Water Sampling Plan for public comment.
- 7/97 Sampled drinking water wells and storage tanks.
- 11/97 Draft Phase II: submitted the Drinking Water and Faucets Sampling Plan for public comment.
- 1/98 Shared with the community the first round of drinking water wells and storage tank results.
- 7/98 Drinking Water Phase II: implemented the second round of drinking water sampling, which included residential faucet sampling.
- 10/98 Submitted the Draft Field Sampling Plan for Soil Investigation for public comment.
- 3/99 Soil Sampling Completed.

Contact

Mark Calhoon, (415) 744-2376

In late 1996, Region 9's Superfund office investigated a predominantly African-American community in the vicinity of the former Quality Printed Circuits circuit board manufacturing facility after complaints were made against the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's (ADEQ's) investigation of a 1992 fire at the facility. ADEQ's investigation concluded that the community was not being exposed to levels of contaminants that exceeded health-based levels. However, the community has reported a high incidence of illness and death, which they attribute to emissions from the fire.

In December 1996, Region 9 met with the community to describe its plan to evaluate environmental conditions in the community and determine whether there is current exposure to contaminants above health-based action levels. In May 1997, a public meeting was held to present Region 9's Phase I sampling plans. In June 1997, sampling of soil, indoor house dust, and air duct dust was performed. In September 1997, a public meeting was held to present the results from the Phase I sampling effort, which indicated that dust and soil samples were below health-based action levels. However, the community was still

convinced that action was needed because contaminants in air duct dust samples were statistically higher than corresponding samples in control homes. Therefore, Region 9 performed Phase II sampling, which indicated that there were not contaminants present in air above health-based action levels.

Upon receiving the Phase II results, EPA held several meetings with all stakeholders to obtain commitments from them to participate (financially or with services) in cleaning ventilation ducts in study area homes. These meetings and negotiations continued for several months until it became apparent that EPA would have to proceed alone if ventilation duct cleaning was to take place. In March 1999, Region 9 held a community meeting to inform the community of the Phase II results and to announce that EPA would clean the ventilation ducts of homes and schools located in the study area.

Completed Milestones

12/96	Held initial meeting with community.
6/97	Completed Phase I Sampling.
9/97	Held a meeting with community to present Phase I results.
11/97	Phase II Sampling began.
4/98 - 10/98	Held meetings with community representatives and other stakeholders.
3/99	Held a meeting with the community to present Phase II results and announce that EPA will perform ventilation duct cleaning.
10/99	Estimated time frame to begin ventilation duct cleaning.
12/99	Estimated time frame that ventilation duct cleaning ends.

Contact

Nancy Riveland-Har, (415) 744-2371

Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) is a 25-megawatt geothermal power plant on the Island of Hawaii. A nearby Native Hawaiian and Native Alaskan community raised concerns about the power t's use of culturally significant lands, past problems with hydrogen sulfide releases from well blowouts and plant operations, and their possible impacts to the aquifer and underlying geology. In 1995, Region 9 and the National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC) conducted a multi-media inspection of the PGV facility and issued an inspection report in March 1997, which indicated that PGV was not in compliance with all regulatory requirements.

In FY 1997, Region 9 issued PGV a draft permit for the installation of 10 UIC wells and held public informational meetings in Pahoia to answer questions on the draft permit. A public comment period for the draft permit was held and 161 comments were received. After reviewing the comments, Region 9 revised PGV's draft permit and issued it to PGV on June 16, 1999. At the end of FY 1997, EPA awarded Puna Malama Pono an environmental justice grant for \$32,000 to follow-up and expand the neighborhood's air monitoring program and to develop an additional work to implement a pilot citizen alert system using data from the neighborhood air monitoring program.

EPA is working with Hawaii's Department of Housing to lower the intake probes for the stationary air monitors, facilitate better community access to air monitoring data, and implement suggestions for changes to the air permit, which was revised and issued on July 2, 1999. In addition, EPA issued a draft report for public comment in February 1999 on its review of the emergency response plans for PGV and Hawaii County. EPA is in the process

of compiling a comprehensive response to pertinent comments. As followup to one of the report recommendations, EPA provided assistance to Hawaii County for Planning and completing its first tabletop Hazmat response exercise in June 1999 and provided \$25,000 in grant funds to Hawaii County for updating and upgrading the Hazmat portion of the Hawaii County Emergency Operations Plan, which should be completed in September 2000. Region 9 also is working with the Department of Housing and ATSDR to review the validity of the methods used by Dr. Legator in an initial health symptom survey, which began in 1996 with help from 100 volunteers in the Puna area.

Completed Milestones

1995	Multi-media inspection of PGV conducted.
3/97	Final report for the multi-media inspection issued by EPA Region 9 and the National Enforcement Investigations Center (NEIC).
Fall 1997	EPA, in collaboration with NEIC, responded in writing to PGV management regarding PGV's complaints about findings in the report.
FY97	PGV submitted an application for a federal underground injection control permit.
3/98	EPA issued a draft permit for 10 injection wells.
3/98 - 4/98	Public informational meetings were held in Pahoia to answer questions on the draft permit.
4/98	EPA and DOH held public hearings on their respective draft permits.
6/99	EPA issued its draft permit.
End of FY97	EPA awarded Puna Malama Pono a second environmental justice grant for \$32,000.
7/99	EPA revised and issued PGV a new air permit.
2/99	The draft report on review of the emergency response plans for PGV and Hawaii County released for comment.
5/99	Comment period for the emergency response plans ended; EPA received 20 letters.
6/99	Region 9 provided assistance to Hawaii County for Planning and completing its first tabletop hazmat response exercise.

Contacts

Shannon FitzGerald, (415) 744-1830 (Water Division Lead)
Michael Ardito, (415) 744-2328 (Superfund Division)

Midway Village for Children's Health and Environmental Justice is a group of predominately African-American residents who state they have been served an injustice due to their exposure to toxic waste [specifically polynuclear aromatic compounds (PNAs)] from past activities at the Martin Service Center (now known as the PG&E-Martin Service Center). The PG&E-Martin Service Center operated on the same property where the Midway Village housing complex currently sits. In response to the Midway community's concerns, EPA agreed to look into their claims.

After reviewing and analyzing data from the 1993 and 1994 removal action that took place on the site, EPA presented its conclusions and recommendations to the community at a meeting on March 20, 1999. The recommendations included the following: 1) previously landscaped areas: EPA recommended that additional unpaved areas in Midway Village be sampled and excavated. EPA addressed these concerns with the state and decided to develop a field soil sampling plan. 2) Areas where concrete and asphalt were installed: The cleanup

objectives were to prevent direct exposure to residents to contaminated soil. EPA concluded that no additional actions are required in these areas. 3) Cleanup goal: EPA is currently having discussions with the Department of Toxic Substances Control to establish a new cleanup goal based on the most up-to-date scientific methods. In response to the community's health concerns, ATSDR is working with the community. In addition, Region 9 met with most of the responsible parties to gain a better understanding of their involvement in past activities at the site, and to ask them to join the mediation process. Region 9 also responded to the Midway community's request to test their tap water because it is frequently discolored. EPA tested the residents' tap water, and the results were negative. In the fall of 1999, soil sampling of unpaved areas will begin and a community meeting on soil sample results and next steps will be held.

Completed Milestones

03/99	Tested the tap water.
03/99	Held a community meeting on "EPA Conclusions of 1993 and 1994 State Cleanup."
04/99	Sent letters to residents announcing the tap water test results.
08/99	Held a community discussion on Department of Toxic Substances Control's Draft Soil Sampling Plan and Drainage Project.
08/99	Daly City began its Drainage Project on Martin Service Center land.

Contact

Michelle Schutz, (415) 744-2393

The Verdese Carter Park site is located in the Elmhurst District of East Oakland, California. The southern half of the 3-acre site was occupied by a lead battery manufacturing facility from 1912 to 1975. The City of Oakland acquired the property in 1976, demolished the battery factory, and developed Verdese Carter Park in 1978. During the development of the park, the City of Oakland conducted two removal actions—one in 1976 and another in 1978—to remove lead-containing soil.

In September 1994, the African American Development Association petitioned EPA to re-evaluate the Verdese Carter Park project because of widespread concern that the Park had caused health, learning, and behavioral problems of residents living in the vicinity of the park. A "Strategic Plan for Verdese Carter Park" was developed and approved by EPA, Alameda County Public Health Department, ATSDR, the City of Oakland, and Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. A Community Assistance Panel for the project area was developed, as well as an Interagency Working Group, to coordinate activities that addressed the cleanup of the park, environmental investigations and remediation plans of residential properties, public education, and community outreach. In FY 1999, the final soil cleanup plan, which includes cleanup and restoration work at ten properties and soil sampling at six additional residential properties to determine if soil cleanup is needed should be completed.

Completed Milestones

1997-1998	44 additional properties were sampled to find out if lead dust from the former battery factory at Verdese Carter Park affected nearby residential properties.
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6/99 EPA held a community meeting to discuss the proposed final soil cleanup for the Verdese Carter Park project area. EPA solicited public input, answered questions raised by property owners, and considered the community's concerns.

Contacts

Alana Lee, (415) 744-2217 (Project Manager)
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Region 9's Site Assessment Program provided \$30,000 to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to conduct site discovery efforts in the Bell Gardens and South Central Los Angeles areas of southern California. The Bell Gardens project identified facilities that may have released contaminants to the environment in the immediate area surrounding the Suva School and adjacent Chrome Crankshaft facility in this predominantly Latino community. The community is primarily concerned about the incidence of cancer among students and teachers at the Suva School and possible links between health issues and environmental contamination. A total of 19 sites have been identified for further assessment, which will be initiated by the California DTSC under the FY 2000 Site Assessment grant.

The South Central Los Angeles project identified 62 facilities that may be contributing to hexavalent chromium in groundwater in a one-mile radius surrounding, but not including, the Jefferson Middle School. Environmental assessment and remediation at the Jefferson Middle School is ongoing by the LA Unified School District under the California DTSC lead and oversight. Mixed industrial and residential land use, environmental justice issues raised by the African American community in this area, and known regional groundwater contamination have been considered as part of this project. Gathering of facility-specific information for the newly identified properties will be partially funded by the FY 2000 Site Assessment grant with the California DTSC, and partially funded by the California DTSC.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Awarded a \$30,000 grant to the California DTSC to conduct site discovery efforts in the Bell Gardens and South Central Los Angeles areas of southern California.

Contact

Rachel Loftin, (415) 744-2347

Action Item

Examine whether priority setting methods adequately consider environmental justice concerns

Region 8

In Region 8, environmental justice concerns were factored in with the other site concerns in establishing priorities. Environmental justice maps and demographic data were considered.

Contact

Lisa Reed Lloyd, (303) 312-6537

Action Item

Develop supplemental risk assessment guidance in coordination with Agency-wide efforts to address environmental justice concerns

Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

OERR is undergoing efforts to revise and enhance the way EPA uses risk assessments in the Superfund program. This initiative will improve current national Superfund risk assessment guidance by selectively updating the 1989 Risk Assessment Guidance for Superfund (RAGS). OERR met with various stakeholder groups (including citizens and environmental justice groups) to solicit ideas for improvements to RAGS. At the two major stakeholder forums that were held, stakeholders identified key areas where improvement is needed and offered suggestions to improve RAGS. EPA identified four key issues to address: community involvement in the risk assessment process; land use considerations, establishment of background for risk assessment purposes; and uncertainty/probabilistic analysis.

Completed Milestones

10/96	Held stakeholder forum in San Francisco, California.
11/96	Held stakeholder forum in Washington, DC.
10/97	Developed a fact sheet that provided a summary of activities and status of RAGS revision efforts.
3/98	Held follow-up meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

Contact

Jayne Michaud, (703) 603-8847

In OERR's effort to standardize risk assessments in the Superfund program, an initiative to create a concise, helpful, user-friendly reference was developed to provide risk assessors and community members with suggestions for working together in designing and carrying out good risk assessments.

Completed Milestones

02/97	Formed a workgroup to develop the reference document.
09/97	Developed draft of reference document titled "Community Participation in Superfund Risk Assessments Supplement to RAGS" for review within EPA.
03/98	Presented draft at RAGS Forum in Atlanta, Georgia.

Contact

Bruce Engelbert, (202) 260-6204

OERR is undergoing a series of efforts to revise and enhance the way EPA uses risk assessments in the Superfund program. At the December 1997 National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) meeting, the Waste and Facility Siting subcommittee resolved that EPA hold a risk assessment roundtable. OERR, along with several NEJAC representatives are working together on this risk assessment roundtable. The goals are to identify community concerns on risk assessment; clarify basic risk assessment information; explore risk assessment issues relevant to environmental justice (e.g., cumulative risk, sensitive populations); build bridges among the stakeholder groups; and explore viable alternatives to risk assessment.

Completed Milestones

- 1/98 Held initial conference call to scope out planning for the risk assessment roundtable.
- 3/98 Formed planning committee to develop risk assessment roundtable with monthly/weekly conference calls.

Contact

Pat Carey, (703) 603-8772

OERR is undergoing a series of efforts to revise and enhance the way EPA uses risk assessments in the Superfund program. The purpose of one reform is to promote standardization in the planning, reporting, and review of Superfund risk assessments and to provide assistance in achieving the goals of the 1995 Browner memo: consistency, clarity, transparency, and reasonableness of Superfund risk assessments. A draft guidance was developed by a national workgroup and reviewed by EPA's Regional Offices, states, DOE, and DOD personnel. A revised draft, *Risk Assessment Guidance for Superfund-Human Health Evaluation Manual (Part D), Standardized Planning, Reporting, and Review of Superfund Risk Assessments*, was released in January 1998 and is available from NTIS and EPA's Internet site. This guidance will be used on a pilot basis until the end of FY 1998 and then revised based on the results of the pilot.

Completed Milestones

- 9/96 Draft guidance completed for peer review.
- 9/97 Revised guidance completed for EPA regional review.
- 12/97 Guidance approved for release as Interim Draft for pilot phase.

Contact

Jim Konz, (703) 603-8841

OERR is increasing its efforts to work with tribes, particularly in the area of risk assessment. The focus of these efforts is to discuss ways to incorporate tribal cultural values into the Superfund risk assessment process. This includes evaluation of cultural values in the Hazardous Ranking System process as well as in the baseline risk assessment. OERR has identified several tribal groups interested in discussing risk assessment issues. One tribe

prepared a paper describing the need to incorporate cultural values into the HRS model. Several other tribes prepared a journal article describing exposure scenarios for tribes. OERR is proposing pilots for several tribes to explore new approaches for incorporating cultural values into the Superfund process.

Completed Milestones

2/97	Met with National Tribal Environmental Council.
12/97	Met with Intertribal Risk Assessment Committee.
2/98	Participated in the Tribal Risk Roundtable.

Contact

Jim Konz, (703) 603-8841

Region 2

Region 2 co-chaired the Risk Assessment Guidance for Superfund Administrative Reforms Workgroup, which is revising EPA's guidance in the following areas: public involvement, land use, background, and probabilistic/uncertainty. The workgroup has developed draft guidance in each of these areas and will have discussions with stakeholder's to gain input. The plan is to update RAGS in the coming year.

At the site level, Region 2 met with community members on specific sites to discuss land use and potential routes of exposure to assure that the risk assessment addressed community concerns.

Region 2 also actively participates in the Agency's IRIS pilot project to review proposed documents for IRIS and assure that the latest scientific information is used in the development of the risk assessment. This approach assures that the toxicological component of the risk calculation is protective of public health.

Contact

Marian Olsen, (212) 637-4313

Region 9

Region 9 hosted a forum for soliciting input from stakeholder groups on specific risk assessment guidance that requires updating and elaboration. Stakeholders included citizens, environmentalists, industry, and local, state, and tribal governments. Region 9's technical support team served as resources for this forum.

Region 9 co-chaired a workgroup that developed the "Community Participation in the Risk Assessment Process" draft guidance, which provides Superfund employees and community members with ideas on working together during the risk assessment process. It identifies the best opportunities for input by community members. An internal EPA review is presently underway and a draft for external review will be available in FY 1998.

The external review document (Community Participation in the Risk Assessment Process draft guidance) was provided to the Washoe Indian Tribe in Nevada to assist in preparation of an RI/FS for the Leviathan Mine study area.

Completed Milestones

FY98 External review of “Community Participation in the Risk Assessment Process” draft guidance.

Contact

Sophia Serda, (415) 744-2307

Action Item

Coordinate indoor lead paint removal with other agencies

Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

Superfund continued to work with HUD and EPA’s Regional OSCs and RPMs to address indoor lead paint removal. HUD’s initial grant offering in FY 1996 was expanded in FY 1997 to include Brownfields and Indian tribes. Criteria were modified to allow broader participation from “orphan sites” so that communities with environmental issues were not unjustly penalized.

HUD grants provided funds to state and local governments for lead-based paint abatement of low-income homes on and around Superfund sites. In October 1997, HUD awarded \$4 million to the Grand Gateway Council of Governments, the city of Butte-Silver Bow, Montana, the city of Boston, Massachusetts, and the County of Alameda, California. These awards represent a major step forward in environmental justice efforts. This was the first time that an award was made to a grantee that included a consortium of Indian tribes. The grant to Alameda County resulted in lead-based paint abatement activities in the Verdese Carter Park neighborhood, a minority community near the Allied Signal Superfund site.

Completed Milestones

- 10/96 Signed award agreements for FY 1996 grants.
- 4/97 Modified grant award criteria to include Brownfields and Indian tribes.
- 6/97 Published Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) in the *Federal Register*.
- 8/97 Grant applications due to HUD.
- 10/97 HUD announced four grants for lead-based paint abatement.

Contact

Melissa Friedland, (703) 603-8864

Region 2

Region 2’s lead program coordinates with HUD on lead paint hazard response. In FY 1997, Region 2 initiated enforcement per the Disclosure Rule of the Residential Lead Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Title X, Section 108). An example of interagency coordination includes Region 2’s exchange of inspection candidate information with HUD on a quarterly basis. The lead program is responsive to all communities via tips and complaints and via the priority to address the environments of children under six years of age and when elevated blood lead levels are reported. In addition, the lead program is particularly responsive to environmental justice populations and communities as

enforcement and response action is taken to ensure safety in environments where pre-1978 housing and low income neighborhoods are likely indicators of potential hazard.

Contact

Louis Bevilacqua, (732) 321-6773

Region 8

Region 8 and its grantees participated in a tri-regional meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada, and a national meeting on lead issues in Breckenridge, Colorado, which was hosted by the Region. Lead grants were issued to seven tribes and three states:

- Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Eagle Butte, South Dakota
- Chippewa Cree Tribe, Box Elder, Montana
- Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Fort Thompson, South Dakota
- Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, Lower Brule, South Dakota
- Oglala Sioux Tribe, Pine Ridge, South Dakota
- Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Rosebud, South Dakota
- Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Fort Yates, North Dakota
- The State of Colorado
- The State of Utah
- The State of Wyoming

Action Item

Assist Indian tribes financially and technically to build hazardous waste response capacity

Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

OERR is developing a plan to enhance the state and tribal role in the Superfund Program. This plan contains a comprehensive national approach to more fully share Superfund responsibilities with interested and capable states and tribes, with the ultimate objective of quickly cleaning up more sites. Workgroups consisting of EPA, state, and tribal representatives were formed.

The plan is in the draft and pilot stage and is being widely distributed. EPA is committed to conducting at least nine pilots in Indian Country to test the plan. These pilots will be based on the recommendations of the tribal workgroup and are included in the plan. The primary purpose of the pilots will be to gain working experience with the plan's integrated process of readiness assessment and negotiated assistance and agreements. Lessons learned will be used to make appropriate changes prior to full-scale implementation.

Completed Milestones

- 11/97 Presented the plan to Acting Assistant Administrator Tim Fields.
- 02/98 Discussed portions of the tribal recommendations at the Albuquerque Forum.
- 03/98 Presented the plan to Division Directors.

Contact

Lisa Boynton, (703) 603-9052

OERR began to develop an inventory of all Superfund sites in Indian Country. To start this project, OERR developed and distributed to EPA's Regional Offices a memo requesting information on sites in CERCLIS and the Open Dumps Act list. OERR will ask the Regional Offices to verify additional information on sites in Indian Country. This information will be compiled and reviewed before establishing the next steps for the project.

Completed Milestones

12/97 Distributed a memo requesting that information be sent to EPA's Regional Offices.
03/98 Compiled lists of tribal sites.

Contact

Lisa Boynton, (703) 603-9052

Region 2

Region 2 continues to work with Native American tribes to build Superfund capacity. Region 2 continued to fund its core grant to St. Regis Mohawk for infrastructure and environmental response support. Region 2 continues to provide removal assessment and emergency response actions as necessary to address imminent environmental hazards.

Contact

Richard Salkie, (732) 321-6658

Region 2 is providing the Haudensaunee Environmental Task Force with \$100,000 to develop an Indigenous Strategy for long-term pollution prevention. The task force will support its existent clearinghouse on environmental information by designing community education programs that promote pollution prevention in a culturally-relevant manner, publish a book based on Haudenosaunee environmental philosophy, and coordinate a conference that brings together experts and the community on topics in environmental law, pollution prevention, and the Haudensaunee culture.

Contact

Marian Olsen, (212) 637-4313

Prior to releasing a proposed plan announcing a change in the GM, Massena Superfund site's remediation strategy, EPA held separate meetings with members of the Mohawk Tribal Council, St. Regis Mohawk Environment Division, and the Akwesasne Task Force on the Environment. The meetings were effective in allowing the community more time to voice their concerns and allowed EPA to understand the nature of the concerns prior to the larger

public forum. One change in the EPA's outreach strategy was to hold public meetings on Mohawk Territory. Prior to this year, meetings were held both in the town and on tribal land. EPA advertised the meeting on the Mohawk radio station as well as two tribal newspapers.

Completed Milestones

- 8/98 Held individual meetings with tribal council and Akwesasne Task force on the Environment.
- 9/98 Discussed the proposed plan at a larger public meeting.
- 3/99 The plan was accepted by the community and was published in a Record of Decision.

Contact

Anne Kelly, (212) 637-4264

Region 8

Region 8 is working with tribes to develop Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plans and is conducting an array of Hazardous Materials Response Training for tribes. Region 8 has conducted several removals of hazardous materials on tribal lands. These removals included leaking drums, insecticides, unsecured poisons, and sewage waste water. In addition, Region 8 spill investigations on tribal lands found that the spills may be a threat to human health, land, or the environment.

Completed Milestones

Northern Ute Tribe, Utah

FY98 Removal action at the Ute Manufacturing Facility and a removal Action at the Ute Tribe Chemicals.

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Towaoc, Colorado

FY98 Removal action at the Towaoc day care center.

Spirit Lake Nation, Fort Totten, North Dakota

FY98 Removal action at Saint Michael's Lagoon.

Oglala Sioux Tribe, Pine Ridge, South Dakota

FY98 Removal action at the Pine Ridge Landfill and a removal action at Manderson Community Lagoons.

Contacts

Suzanne Stevenson, (303) 312-6122 (Core Contact)

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Action Item

Establish a pilot program to train minority and/or low-income workers in the hazardous waste cleanup field

Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

OERR established a pilot program called the Superfund Job Training Initiative (Super JTI) to provide environmental cleanup training to and promote employment of community residents during the Superfund site cleanup. The Super JTI was developed in response to public demand for more local economic benefit from Superfund site cleanups. Through the Super JTI, OERR partnered with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Minority Worker Training Program to provide training to minority workers in the hazardous waste cleanup field. In situations where the community is committed to establishing its own training program, the Super JTI facilitates the inclusion of the community in current or developing job training and employment programs that may lead to a sustainable local program. The key to success for each Super JTI lies in partnership with the community that is affected by the Superfund site; federal, state, and local jobs training and service providers; site cleanup contractors; local businesses; and community organizations.

OERR and EPA Regional Staff encourage Superfund cleanup contractors to employ community residents who have been trained through the Super JTI to work at their local Superfund site. In addition, OERR is developing strategies to place these workers in environmental careers when work is completed at the Superfund site.

Completed Milestones

- 02/97 Formalized partnership with NIEHS.
- 04/97 Distributed memo to National Superfund Managers.
- 07/97 Presented Super JTI to EPA Contractor Forum.
- 09/97 Partnered with the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.
- 01/98 Initiated Super JTI pilots at the following sites: Agriculture Street Landfill site in New Orleans, Louisiana; RSR Smelter site in West Dallas, Texas; AT&SF site in Albuquerque, New Mexico; Tennessee Products site in Chattanooga, Tennessee; Washington Navy Yard, District of Columbia.
- 02/98 Established Super JTI pilot at the N.L. Taracorp site in Granite City, Illinois.

Contacts

David Ouderkirk, (703) 603-9039

Region 2

In FY 1998, Brownfields Job Training and Development Pilots were awarded. Region 2 provided grant outreach and application assistance. The New Jersey Youth Corps was one of 11 Brownfields Job Training Pilots awarded nationwide. This \$200,000 grant will initiate a pilot program providing 150 hours of environmental technician training, including training on innovative treatment technologies. The trainees are 30 underemployed and unemployed people aged 18-25 from Camden and Newark, New Jersey.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Provided grant outreach and application assistance to Brownfields Job Training and Development Pilot applicants.

Contact

Chelsea Albucher, (212) 637-4291

Region 5

The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) awarded Chicago's DePaul University a cooperative agreement to train qualified individuals under the NIEHS Minority Workers Training Program. Due to the program's high level of success, EPA created the Superfund Job Training (Super JTI) program. This program began as a pilot program for disadvantaged minority persons to receive life skills, pre-employment, environmental, and technical training.

Super JTI was established as a result of the EPA's growing sensitivity to the reality that many of the Nation's most contaminated sites are located in severely-disadvantaged communities. Super JTI addresses the public's repeated request to participate in the environmental cleanup and restoration of Superfund sites residing in communities. To date, the Super JTI has been implemented at the NL Taracorp site in Granite City, Illinois; the Douglas Road Landfill site in Mishawaka, Indiana, and the Dutch Boy site in Chicago, Illinois. EPA and DePaul worked together to train over 65 community residents during the three training sessions. Super JTI also involves EPA partnering with DePaul and other community organizations to host a graduation ceremony and job fair where community residents are given the opportunity to meet with local contractors to enhance employment opportunities. EPA also provides participants with a "Yearbook" to document their job training experience and commitment to complete the program.

Completed Milestones

- 3/97 Explained to Representatives from DePaul University how the Minority Worker Training Program (MWTP) works.
- 5/97 DePaul University held a seminar on "Contract Forecast and Job Projections in FY 1997 and Beyond."
- 9/97 Region 5's Superfund Division identified Granite City, Illinois, as a site to train individuals under MWTP.
- 3/98 Implemented Super JTI at the NL Taracorp site in Granite City, Illinois.
- 5/98 Provided Super JTI presentations at the National Community Involvement Conference in Boston, Massachusetts, and the National Brownfields Job Training and Development Workshop in Chicago, Illinois.

Contacts

Oliver L. Warnsley, (312) 886-0442
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Region 6

In late fall 1998, Region 6 received a request for training of community residents impacted by the MDI Superfund site in Houston, Texas. The EPA worked with several community non-profit groups, including Houston Works, Make Ready, and Service of the Emergency Aid Resource Center for the Homeless (SEARCH) to recruit and screen approximately 30 students. The original 11 students who secured positions in the environmental remediation field, and the one student hired at National Space and Aeronautics Administration, are still employed.

Completed Milestones

Fall 1998 Received a request for training of community residents impacted by the MDI Superfund site in Houston, Texas.

Action Item

Incorporate community involvement during site assessments to reduce potential environmental inequities

Region 2

In the brownfields pilots, community involvement is an integral factor in the selection of sites for assessment and in the subsequent decision making about the sites.

Contact

Lawrence D'Andrea, (212) 637-4314

Region 3

Region 3's project managers (including site assessment managers) briefed management on site-related issues using GIS maps that depict minority and poverty distribution. In FY 1996, the Region's Regional Decision Team (RDT) committee screened more than five pre-remedial NPL caliber sites with potential environmental justice implications and identified two environmental justice population sites surrounding the presently-evaluated NPL caliber sites. Since August 30, 1994, the RDT committee filtered 22 sites with possible environmental justice implications using GIS maps and SACM criteria forms—which add specific data regarding significant minority and poverty populations—in efforts to identify environmental justice populations.

Completed Milestones

1/97 The RDT decided that Region 3's project managers should evaluate, identify, and recommend pre-remedial NPL caliber sites with environmental justice implications for RDT review.

3/97 Site Assessment Managers volunteered to help provide peer review comments for some of the 40 candidates applying for \$20,000 small grants.

4/97 Site Assessment Managers volunteered to give an environmental speech to fourth graders.

- 12/97 Site Assessment Managers provided input in the Washington, DC, Control Board's City-State Environmental Program, which serves more than a 92% non-white population.
- 12/97 Site Assessment Managers received 300 GIS maps that mapped sites with potential environmental justice implications. These maps were in addition to the 46 GIS maps requested in January 23, 1997.

Contacts

David Wright, (215) 814-3293

Robert Guari, (215) 814-3265

Region 8

The EPA assessment teams incorporated community participation at sites that are being assessed for potential hazardous contamination. If contamination is found, then the community will play a key role in the next phase.

Contacts

Patricia Smith (303) 312-6082

Luke Chavez (303) 312-6512

Action Item

Develop a nationally consistent policy that outlines whether to relocate citizens living near Superfund sites as part of the site remedy

Office of Emergency and Remedial Response

OERR is developing a relocation policy that will provide guidance for a nationally consistent approach for determining when to relocate citizens away from neighboring Superfund sites as part of the site remedy. This effort is due, in part, to a January 1995 National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) resolution that stated the need for such a relocation policy.

OERR held a series of stakeholder forums to solicit and obtain input from community members and other stakeholders on criteria EPA should consider in determining whether or not to conduct a relocation at a Superfund site. In May 1996, OERR, along with several NEJAC representatives, held a Relocation Roundtable meeting that drew over 90 participants; 50% of which were community citizens affected by hazardous wastes sites. At the Roundtable, OERR obtained comments on relocation issues and obtained citizen input on criteria that could be used to determine when to conduct relocations. Seven additional stakeholder forums were held between March 1997 and October 1997. OERR obtained valuable information and recommendations from the various stakeholder groups, including community and environmental justice concerns. OERR plans to incorporate recommendations made during these outreach efforts into relocation guidance.

Completed Milestones

03/97 Held relocation stakeholder forums in Washington, DC.

- 9/97 Held several forums representing various interest groups, including industry, public health, and federal, state, and local governments.
- 10/97 Held relocation stakeholder forum in Seattle, Washington, with Native Americans and tribal government representatives.
- 10/97 Held relocation stakeholder forum in Charleston, West Virginia, with environmental justice representatives.
- 12/97 Briefed NEJAC's Waste and Facility Siting subcommittee at a NEJAC meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina.
- 02/98 Developed draft summaries of all the relocation stakeholder forums.
- 02/98 Distributed draft relocation policy to EPA's Regional Offices for comments.

Contact

Pat Carey, (703) 603-8772

Action Item

Develop a regional environmental justice policy and report on environmental justice demographic thresholds at Superfund sites

Region 4

Region 4's Environmental Justice Team, which is housed in the Waste Management Division, participated in drafting Region 4's interim environmental justice policy document, which is currently under review. This regional-based document recommends the integration of environmental justice into functional aspects of EPA business, such as permitting, enforcement, and remediation.

Region 4 completed a report titled "NPL Superfund Sites: Evaluation of Environmental Justice Demographic Thresholds in Region 4 (Interim Draft Rev. #1)." This report was an initial effort for complying with an upcoming Headquarters guidance requiring the Regions to evaluate potentially-responsible-party compliance at Superfund sites (starting with environmental justice communities). Preliminary findings indicate that 89% of our nation's NPL Superfund sites may have local communities that meet or exceed environmental justice demographic thresholds. A customized internal environmental justice program that uses state threshold values for minority and two low-income indices was developed. Each of the 238 NPL sites were evaluated by looking at the broader community surrounding the site (0-1, 1-2, and 2-3 mile radius) and the fence-line community (0-0.5, 0.5-1.0, 1.0-1.5 radius).

Contacts

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 Eddie L. Wright, (404) 562-8669

Action Item

Participation in national/regional agenda

Region 4

Working in consultation with the Medical University of South Carolina, Region 4's environmental justice team and senior staff participated on a focus group and worked to establish a position paper to determine if environmental justice and Title VI impede economic redevelopment. Region 4's position is that environmental justice and Title VI do not impede economic redevelopment. In FY 1999, Region 4 plans to present an agenda for the position paper at the Congressional Black Caucus.

Contact

Rosalind Brown, (404) 562-8633

Members of Region 4's environmental justice team participated in Superfund and RCRA State Director's meetings, which were held in Atlanta, Georgia, and Charleston, South Carolina, respectively. The discussion at these meetings focused on environmental justice and Title VI.

Contact

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Action Item

Establish an internal work group to better integrate environmental justice concerns into Superfund program activities

Region 10

Region 10's Environmental Cleanup Office (ECL) established an *ad hoc* group of employees to focus efforts on increasing the visibility of environmental justice in Superfund program activities. The group consists of Remedial Project Managers, On-Scene Coordinators, Community Relations Specialists, and Contracting Officers. This group will build on existing efforts by Region 10's Office of Civil Rights and Environmental Justice. Staff efforts may include evaluating national guidance from EPA Headquarters for identifying environmental justice communities at Superfund Sites or identifying opportunities to expand existing efforts to conduct outreach to environmental justice communities.

Contact

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Action Item

Establish site-specific federal coordination groups for issues outside Superfund jurisdiction

Region 2

In FY 1998, Region 2 provided site specific federal coordination in three ways: through the Environmental Justice Coordinator; through the Brownfields Interagency Work Group; and, as necessary, at sites undergoing hazardous waste emergency response actions and remediation.

Pursuant to protocols developed by two of Region 2's Environmental Justice Program Initiatives ("Standard Operating Procedures for Environmental Justice Matters in Region 2" and "Procedures for Handling Environmental Justice Complaints"), Region 2's Environmental Justice Coordinator facilitates investigation and response to environmental justice issues and complaints. As per Region 2's environmental justice protocols, response is coordinated internally with appropriate program offices, and, as necessary, with other federal, state, tribal, and local government agencies.

Relevant participants from the Brownfields Inter-Agency Work Group have been called upon to assist on site-specific issues outside of Superfund jurisdiction. Region 2's Emergency Response and Remedial Division regularly coordinates with other federal agencies to address issues at hazardous waste emergency response and remediation sites. Regular coordination occurs with agencies such as ATSDR and NOAA.

Contact

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Action Item

Cleaning up a Chicago community with an environmental justice issue (methyl parathion)

Region 5

During FY 1997, Region 5's Emergency Response Branch initiated testing of residences on Chicago's Westside where they believed homes were sprayed with the pesticide Methyl Parathion. Of the 99 homes referred to EPA for relocation and decontamination, 35 households were relocated, 77 homes were decontaminated with confirmation results, and two homes were decontaminated without confirmation results; one of the referrals refused to be relocated. A total of 51 households will be moved back to their homes after successful decontamination and restoration. Of the 99 referrals, only one household willing to participate has yet to be relocated.

Completed Milestones

FY98 The Emergency Removal program will continue biological monitoring and environmental sampling as needed. Relocation of residents, decontamination, restoration of homes, and return of residents to their homes will continue.

Contacts

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Oil Pollution Act (OPA)

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Topic Area: Oil Pollution Act

Action Item

Identify the types and characteristics of oil storage facilities most likely to be located in poor or minority areas and target inspections and enforcement in these communities

Region 2

Region 2's Emergency Response and Remediation Branch (ERRD) implements demographic screening for communities of concern (COC) surrounding all potential removal actions and provides that information to on-scene coordinators (OSCs) in the Removal Program. This demographics screening is performed using LandView III software. No definitive environmental justice determination is made. However, the demographic data for the COC is used to determine if a removal action is within a potential environmental justice area and if public outreach tools, such as fact sheets in Spanish, need to be developed. The demographics screening addresses population income and minority distributions.

Region 2 currently is in the process of conducting environmental justice training for Region 2 employees and refining an ArcView GIS application designed to analyze demographic data in a manner consistent with Region 2's Draft Environmental Justice Policy. Upon completion of training and refinement of the ArcView GIS application, the removal program intends to implement demographic analysis for COC using the ArcView GIS.

Completed Milestones

FY98 Environmental justice training completed.

Contact

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Underground Storage Tanks

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Topic Area: **Underground Storage Tanks**

Action Item

Provide guidance for states and local agencies on considering environmental justice as a qualitative factor in priority-ranking for state-lead cleanups and enforcement activities

Region 2

Region 2 developed and delivered environmental justice training to its compliance and enforcement staff. This training addressed how to apply enforcement tools and policies in minority and low-income communities that have been disproportionately impacted by environmental pollution. Demographic data will be used to implement inspections of potential environmental justice communities where Underground Storage Tanks (USTs) are located. All states in Region 2 expressed interest in attending the environmental justice training.

Completed Milestones

12/97 Completed five training sessions.

Contact

Dervel Thomas, (212) 637-4028

Region 3

In West Virginia's hazardous waste program, the state Department of Environmental Protection focused on the environmental justice community of Marrilla Park in Morgantown. Six RCRA facilities were inspected: three were hazardous waste handlers, two were non-handlers of hazardous waste, and one was a non-notifier handling hazardous waste. The inspections noted the violation of the party that failed to notify as a handler. The facility was cited, and it submitted the necessary paper work to come into compliance. The state concluded that there was not a disproportionately high incidence of adverse environmental or health impacts on this community from hazardous waste activities.

Completed Milestones

10/97-9/97 Conducted inspections and issued citation.

Contact

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Region 4

Region 4 and South Carolina's Division of Underground Storage Tank Management continued to participate in the CBEP project in North Charleston, an environmental justice community. EPA provided the state with global positioning systems to locate all active underground storage tank sites and all leaking underground storage tanks in the CBEP area.

The state located these sites and provided the data to the GIS mapping group for inclusion on area-wide maps. South Carolina reviewed all leaking underground storage tank sites to ensure that corrective action proceeds on schedule.

Completed Milestones

Ongoing Provided assistance to the CBEP project by addressing questions on UST management and by monitoring corrective action sites.

Contact

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Region 6

During FY 1997, Region 6 encouraged its states to evaluate whether leaking underground storage tank sites affected citizens of minority or low-income neighborhoods inequitably. They also evaluated whether cleanup efforts or claim reimbursements in these neighborhoods took longer than average cleanup efforts. High priority sites—those with impacts to receptors—received the quickest attention. Region 6 also conducted UST programmatic, technical, and compliance training for Indian tribes in Oklahoma and the Inter-Tribal Environmental Council of Oklahoma. Classroom training and field training at UST sites in New Mexico and Oklahoma was provided. Tribes with UST releases were provided with direct assistance from EPA and the Indian Consortia in Oklahoma and New Mexico. Region 6 also worked with other federal agencies—primarily the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service—to remove or upgrade selected tanks on Indian lands. Over 30 tanks were permanently removed, and over 35 tribes initiated upgrading procedures.

Completed Milestones

9/97 Free product recovery training to Citizen Band Potawatomie of Oklahoma.

Ongoing Compliance assistance to selected tribal facilities in New Mexico and Oklahoma; assistance to tribes with UST notification requirements with Regional Tribal Liaison; and review of UST closures and site assessments on Indian Country.

Contacts

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Region 9

In FY 1997, the City of Oakland's Urban Land Redevelopment (URL) Program, a multi-agency effort to address the many issues associated with petroleum-contaminated brownfields, moved into the implementation phase. To ensure the proper management of residual contamination, an innovative institutional control was designed and implemented in the City's computerized permit tracking system. A Community Review Panel issued a report on brownfields-related issues, and the regulatory agencies assessed ways to implement the recommendations. Tier 1 cleanup numbers based on Oakland-specific data were calculated and reviewed by the California EPA. These and other facets of the program were tested at three identified sites in 1998.

In September 1998, construction of the three pilot sites began. All three pilot sites were scheduled to be completed by November 1, 1999. Peer reviews and soil studies that finalized Oakland's Tier 1 input parameters and screening levels were completed in July 1998. A draft guidance document was completed in March 1998. A final version will be available at the completion of the grant. New well construction standards were developed for the City of Oakland. The ULR completed a draft report recommending protocols for soil vapor analysis under risk-based assessments in Oakland. Final protocols were available in early 1999. The final versions of the ULR Program Guidance documents and the Oakland RBCA Technical Background documents will be posted on the City of Oakland's URL web site.

Completed Milestones

- 3/97 Designed and implemented innovative institutional controls for managing residual contamination.
- 4/97 Calculated Oakland-specific Tier 1 risk-based screening levels.
- 4/97 Drafted report justifying input parameters for Tier 1 screening level calculations.
- 8/97 Formed and provided guidance over a ten-month period to a Community Review Panel that issued a report of recommendations.
- 11/97 Undertook soils characterization study to differentiate between geologic units in Oakland.
- 12/97 Acquired access to sites for pilot testing of the program.
- 12/97 Acquired additional funding to continue the program.
- 3/98 Completed peer reviews.
- 5/98 Completed pilot sites.
- 6/98 Completed soil study.
- 7/98 Used peer reviews and soil studies to finalize Oakland Tier 1 input parameters and screening levels.
- 8/98 Drafted guidance document.
- 9/98 Compiled a collection of background metal concentrations found at Oakland sites and in nearby areas. This task was completed in May, a review is needed to determine what concentrations will be included in the tables.
- 10/98 New well construction standards.
- 10/98 Reports summarizing the soil vapor data collected at the ULR pilot sites.
- 11/98 Report recommending protocol for soil vapor analysis under risk-based assessments in Oakland.
- 8/99 Posted final versions of the ULR Program Guidance documents and the Oakland RBCA Technical Background documents on the City of Oakland's URL web site.

Contacts

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Action Item

Provide outreach to states, Indian tribes, and local agencies

Region 1

During FY 1997, Region 1 conducted outreach and training on UST inventory control measures for Maine's Passamaquoddy Pleasant Point Tribe. This training enabled the tribe

to manage and operate its fueling systems more effectively, and it allowed it to come into compliance with Maine and federal UST regulations.

Region 1's OUST program also worked with Maine's Passamaquoddy Indian Township Tribe to develop an appropriate assessment of an isolated groundwater petroleum contamination problem. This tribe resides adjacent to the Pleasant Point Tribe. On September 18, 1997, Region 1's OUST program awarded a \$9,569 grant to the Passamaquoddy Indian Township Tribe to conduct a study and discovery process about USTs on Indian Township lands. After this project's completion, OUST will work with the tribe to properly close USTs that pose threats to human health and the environment.

Completed Milestones

9/98 Conclusion of project period.

Contact

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Region 2

Region 2 provided a Spanish interpreter at a public hearing on EPA's decision to delegate the UST program to Puerto Rico's Environmental Quality Board. The interpreter ensured that all concerned citizens, including low-income residents and those residents unable to speak and comprehend English, could understand the proceedings and provided them with an opportunity to participate in the process.

Completed Milestones

9/97 Held public hearings in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Contact

John S. Kushwara, (212) 637-4232

Region 3

In the Virginia UST program, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ) hired 30 summer interns to conduct 5,000 outreach inspections at UST facilities. VADEQ plans to continue compliance assistance and outreach inspections until all UST facilities in the Commonwealth have been inspected. The Commonwealth believes this kind of state-wide effort will help improve UST management in environmental justice communities throughout Virginia.

Completed Milestones

5/97-9/97 Outreach inspections.

Contact

Rose Nino, (215) 814-3377

Region 9

In FY 1997 and in FY 1998, Region 9 had a major outreach presence in Indian Country. Region 9 staff visited several tribes, conducted compliance assistance inspections, and provided on-the-job training to tribal agency staff conducting compliance inspections. Region 9 also obtained funds from the Office of Underground Storage Tanks to conduct leak detection and 1998 deadline UST upgrade workshops at five locations in Indian Country; to conduct site assessments for abandoned sites on Navajo Nation lands; and to provide training in risk-based corrective action to the tribal attendees during the Regional Tribal Conference. Region 9 and its Circuit Rider in Arizona worked with Tribal environmental agencies to complete inventories of active, closed, and abandoned tanks; to request owners and operators to ensure formal notification of any changes to UST facility status; to oversee UST closures; and to monitor progress on corrective action.

Compliance assistance and outreach continued to be a top priority in anticipation of the December 22, 1998, UST program deadline for upgrading, replacing, or closing sub-standard USTs. USTPO conducted a mass mailing effort to Tribal Chairpersons and Environmental Program Directors of each of the 141 tribes in Region 9. These letters reminded the tribe about the December deadline, that there would be no extension, and offered USTPO technical assistance and guidance in each tribe's efforts to meet the deadline. In another major outreach effort, USTPO mailed a letter to each California tribe explaining what the State of California Fuel Ban meant to gas deliveries on California reservations. Many of the tribes were concerned about how the State law may impact their gasoline deliveries (even though the State law had no jurisdiction on tribal land). Due to this massive mailing outreach effort, when the State fuel ban went into effect on January 1, 1999, there were very few incidents or problems with tribes getting fuel.

Completed Milestones

- 3/97 Renewed the Circuit Rider program in California, Arizona, and Nevada.
- 6/97 Issued the first two field citations to an UST owner on tribal land.
- 7/97 Region 9 UST staff were present for on-site activities in Tuba City to remove old USTs and check for leak sources and evidence of contamination in the pits (7003 Tuba City Order).
- 9/97 Leak detection and 1998 compliance workshops held in Indian Country.
- FY98 Provided funds for Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) to develop and coordinate the American Indian Underground Storage Tank inspector certification program.
- 6/98 Arranged meetings for representatives of Hopi and Navajo Tribes to update communities on the cleanup process in Tuba City.
- 10/98 Navajo Nation passed the Navajo Nation UST code into law.

Contacts

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Action Item

Incorporate environmental justice criteria into UST state grants and cooperative agreements

Region 2

Grants, an updated computer system, and field equipment (Hnu and PID) were given to the Seneca Nation Indian Tribe to inspect and manage USTs on its jurisdiction. Similar assistance will be given other Indian tribes.

Completed Milestones

- Gave computer and field equipment to Seneca Nation.
- Awarded grants to Seneca Nation.

Contact

John S. Kushwara, (212) 637-4232

Region 3

Region 3 used the Subtitle C and I grant process to increase state management and staff awareness of environmental justice concerns. Most states initiated community assessments to identify areas that may be prone to environmental justice issues. Our states have become more aware of the need to ensure that permitting work, inspections, and enforcements protect human health and the environment indiscriminately.

In FY 1997, the District of Columbia's UST Program conducted 48 UST inspections of the 60 UST systems located in Wards 7 and 8. The District's most socio-economically challenged communities exist in these wards.

In FY 1998, the District of Columbia's Underground Storage Tank Division conducted 28 UST inspections in Wards 7 and 8. Although the UST Division conducted a total of 192 inspections in FY 1998 across the District, these activities are usually initiated by the owner, and inspections throughout the District are conducted on demand.

Completed Milestones

10/96-9/97 Conducted inspections.

Contact

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Region 8

Region 8 held tank upgrade seminars on three Indian reservations. The seminars explained the 1998 tank upgrade requirements, monthly monitoring requirements, and associated deadlines. Arrangements also were made to have the tribal environmental office attend each session.

Region 8 awarded grants to five tribes under RCRA 8001 authority. The grants were used for equipment, program training, abandoned tank identification, building tribal capacity, and developing a tank database. Region 8 reprogrammed funding for a Superfund contract and a RCRA contract to include corrective action work on reservations. Region 8 held an All Tribes UST meeting in Denver to discuss direct implementation for the UST program. This discussion included corrective action processes, compliance inspection schedules, grant processes and deadlines, and enforcement procedures.

Completed Milestones

- 11/97 Final approval for use of RCRA and Superfund contract mechanisms.
- 9/97 Completed tank upgrade and leak detection seminars.
- 9/97 Awarded five grants (total of \$200K).
- 2/97 Held an all Tribes UST meeting.

Contact

David Hogle, (303) 312-6137

Region 9

Region 9 continued to emphasize environmental justice in state grant guidance by encouraging work plan activities that incorporated environmental justice goals in leak detection inspections and prioritization of LUST sites. Region 9 also required the states to inform EPA of any environmental justice activities in quarterly reports. These on-going activities have been fully-integrated into the operations of Region 9.

Completed Milestones

- 3/97 Completed draft grant guidance.
- 3/98 Completed grant guidance.

Contact

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Action Item

Find ways to provide funds and technical assistance to state and tribal governments

Region 5

Region 5 provided grants totaling \$104,000 to four tribal reservations to survey for unregistered tanks; to distribute literature on leak detection and 1998 upgrade requirements; and to update existing UST Notification Data. Another grant for \$8,000 was made to the Ho Chunk Tribe of Wisconsin to conduct a training session for operators of tribally-owned gas stations on proper leak detection procedures and record keeping. Four on-going grants from the previous year allowed the Menominee Tribe of Wisconsin to develop tribal-specific UST regulations and codes; the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin to conduct a risk-based corrective action demonstration project; the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan to conduct an inventory and GIS survey of Michigan Indian Land UST sites; and the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe

Consortium to provide technical assistance for safe tank removals, investigation of suspected and confirmed releases, and LUST technical assistance.

Region 5 conducted compliance assistance visits to over 150 sites within 20 tribal reservations. During these inspections, Region 5 also provided literature on proper leak detection and on the upcoming 1998 upgrade requirement.

As part of Region 5's Tribal Outreach Program, a presentation on UST requirements was made at the Bad River Reservation in Wisconsin to 75 UST owners, operators, and tribal representatives. UST section personnel met with Tribal Environmental Representatives during Region 5's annual GAP program.

A Tribal Database using UST-Access was completed for 455 facilities within Region 5's Indian Country. This database included all notification data for these sites and the compliance status for sites visited. Individual files and a tracking system for 136 identified LUST sites within Indian Country were established.

Completed Milestones

- 8/97 Updated tribal grants for surveys and data.
- 5/97 Held an outreach seminar at Bad River.
- 7/97 Completed UST-Access notification data.
- 9/97 Conducted risk-based corrective action grant field work.

Contact

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Region 9

Region 9 continued to work with individual tribal governments and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to modify the lease language requiring cleanup of contaminated sites on Indian lands. In FY 1997, Region 9 assisted the Navajo Nation in modifying the lease language to provide that property improvements come under the ownership of the tribe upon termination of a lease. Implementation of this provision could result in the tribe becoming responsible for UST sites that were contaminated by the lessee. The Navajo Nation has been discussing environmentally sensitive portions of its lease language with the Navajo Department of Justice and the BIA. In FY 1998, Region 9 announced that the Navajo Nation made these changes, and all of its new leases include strict environmental provisions. Region 9 anticipates that other regional tribes will begin to do this. Region 9 plans to continue to raise this issue with the tribes and the BIA.

Completed Milestones

- 1/97 Navajo Nation began incorporating environmental conditions in new leases.
- 1/97 Various tribes worked with BIA and local agencies to change lease language to protect tribal lands from being contaminated.
- 9/97 Continued a \$30,000 RCRA 8001 grant to Gila River Indian Community.
- 9/97 Contributed \$70,000 toward a RCRA GAP grant for the Navajo Nation's UST Program.
- 9/97 Awarded a \$40,000 RCRA 8001 grant to the Hopi Tribe.
- FY98 Made the following awards:
 - \$103,000 towards the RCRA GAP Grant to the Navajo Nation UST Program.

- \$65,000 RCRA 8001 Grant to the Hopi Tribe.
- Continued a three-year \$30,000 RCRA 8001 Grant to the Gila River Tribe.
- \$200,000 RCRA 8001 two-year grant to Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA).
- \$40,000 to conduct upgrade and closure training for tribal staff at 5 locations.
- \$30,000 for Circuit Rider.
- \$20,000 to train tribal staff in Northern California and Nevada on conducting inspections.

Contacts

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Federal Facilities

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Topic Area: Federal Facilities

Action Item

Fully integrate the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee's (FFERDC) environmental justice principle into decision making at federal facilities cleanups

Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office

In FYs 1997 and 1998, OSWER's Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office (FFRRO) continued to implement the environmental justice principle from the final report of the Federal Facilities Environmental Restoration Dialogue Committee (FFERDC). FFRRO's aggressive environmental justice agenda focused on three primary areas: (1) partnerships; (2) capacity building grants; and (3) information exchange.

FFRRO entered into partnerships and awarded cooperative agreement grants to several community-based organizations. These grants have been used to conduct research; train impacted community members; enhance the effectiveness of community members in environmental planning and restoration; empower communities by providing access to information; and implement the FFERDC principles. These grants offered opportunities to leverage precious resources, build trust, and reach a wide audience.

FFRRO partnered with EPA's Regional Offices to support site-specific environmental justice and public participation efforts. FFRRO worked with DoD and DOE to ensure that issues related to environmental justice were addressed by Restoration Advisory Boards (RABS) and Site-Specific Advisory Boards (SSABs). FFRRO also served as the EPA representative to the People of Color and Disenfranchised Communities (CDC) Environmental Health Summit. The CDC released the 1997 People of Color and Disenfranchised Communities Environmental Health Summit Report. The summit produced the Environmental Justice Protocol for Department of Health and Human Services Agencies in Addressing Radiation and Health Issues in People of Color and Disenfranchised Communities.

Completed Milestones

- 2/97 CFEJ hosted FFERDC Emergency Training Institute on Cleaning -up Contaminated Communities, Savannah, Georgia.
- 2/97 Howard University's Urban Environment Institute hosted Federal Facility Public Participation Seminar planning session.
- 4/97 EPA-Howard University Partnership's Capacity Building for Federal Facilities Communities press announcement.
- 4/97 Howard University's Urban Institute donated computer to Vint Hills Farm Restoration Advisory Board.
- 5/97 CFEJ co-sponsored with EPA, ATSDR, CDC, and NIOSH a "People of Color Environmental Health Summit," Waveland, Mississippi.
- 7/97 San Francisco State's Urban Institute hosted Northeast Federal Facilities Cleanup Workshop, Amherst, Massachusetts.
- 8/97 Howard University's Urban Environment Institute hosted Federal Facility Public Participation Seminar.
- 8/97 CFEJ and Xavier hosted a series of five environmental health education workshops.

- 8/97 San Francisco State's Urban Institute released a draft of "Stakeholder's Guide to the Cleanup of Federal Facilities" for comment.
- FY98 Supported a special Roundtable on Environmental Justice: Institutionalizing Capacity Building through Aca-Net. Representatives from seven academic institutions, five communities, and DOE attended.
- FY98 Formed partnership with Howard University's Urban Environment Institute (UEI)
- 7/98 EPA and UEI sponsored a Collaborative Partners Community Empowerment Research Conference in Charleston, South Carolina.
- FY98 EPA and Howard University developed a Stakeholder to Stockholder Program
- FY98 Awarded grant to the International Institute for Indigenous Resource Management (IIIRM).
- FY98 Awarded grant to Resource Solutions.

Contact

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Region 3

Region 3 entered into an Administrative Consent Order (ACO) with the Department of the Navy to investigate and remediate releases of PCBs, PAHs, and heavy metals from the Washington Navy Yard in the District of Columbia. These pollutants have been detected onsite and in the Anacostia River. The project is being conducted under the authority of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The ACO combined the requirements of RCRA and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), also known as Superfund, to develop remediation plans and to address the contamination. The project included coordination between EPA's RCRA and CERCLA programs and the District of Columbia's Environmental Regulatory Agency. This coordination provided federal and state oversight of both regulatory requirements.

The Washington Navy Yard is located within two miles of the White House, and is surrounded by a substantially minority community. The surrounding community has raised environmental justice concerns regarding the remediation of the Washington Navy Yard. In response to ACO requirements, the Navy established the Restoration Advisory Board to facilitate community relations and to address environmental justice concerns. The board met monthly and provided a forum for the citizens to participate in the investigation and remediation processes. The cleanup process included an assessment of the human health and ecological risks for the surrounding community and the environment. The Navy also considered training and employing local residents for site-related cleanup activities.

The site is currently under consideration for listing on the National Priority List (NPL). Once added to the NPL, the project will be completed under a Superfund Interagency Agreement (IAG). By the year 2003, the Navy will transfer 6,000 jobs into the renovated Washington Navy Yard under the Navy's Base Realignment and Closure program. Based on its geographical location and its substantial minority population, the facility will be a part of Region 3's Anacostia Initiative and Region 3's Environmental Justice Initiative.

On June 30, 1999, EPA, the Department of the Navy, and the District of Columbia entered into a Federal Facilities Agreement to continue the investigation and remediation of the Washington Navy Yard contamination. The project began under the authority of a RCRA Administrative Consent Order (ACO) that combined the requirements of RCRA and CERCLA. The project now involves coordination between EPA's RCRA and CERCLA

programs and the District of Columbia Department of Health. This coordination continues to provide federal and state oversight of both regulatory requirements.

Completed Milestones

3/97	Public meeting and public comment period on issuance of EPA order.
7/97	RCRA administrative consent order effective.
11/97	Interim measures and removal actions at substantially contaminated areas.
4/98	EPA approved of interim measures/removal actions workplan.
6/98	Site listed on NPL.
5/99	EPA approved the corrective action management plan update one for the Washington Navy Yard.
5/99	RCRA facility-wide facility investigation work plan approved.
5/99	EPA approved work plan for sites 7,11, and 13.
6/99	EPA approved work plan for site 16.
6/99	FFA signed.
8/99- 10/99	Public comment period for the FFA.

Contact

Vernon Butler, (215) 814-3425

Action Item

Provide information on and sensitize federal agencies to environmental justice concerns related to base closures and other high-priority federal facility sites

Region 2

Region 2 collected demographic data on low income and minority groups within the region. This data was used to develop general and site-specific screening procedures to target environmental justice communities for all Region 2 activities, including Superfund activities [1]. The data currently is available in tabular format from the regional database. To facilitate the presentation of the environmental data in map format, the data is being entered into GIS. Environmental justice data is provided to agencies at federal facilities.

Region 2 established a Regional Environmental Justice Coordinator and Environmental Justice Division Contacts. Formal environmental justice sensitivity training is mandatory for all Region 2 staff.

Completed Milestones

FY98	Completed entry of demographic data into GIS database. Provided database to federal facilities.
FY98	Completed Region 2 environmental justice training.

Contacts

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Region 3

Under the authority of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), Region 3 completed negotiations of the Administrative Consent Order to conduct interim measures to stabilize onsite releases and to investigate the releases of hazardous constituents at the Washington Navy Yard. Releases of PCBs, PAHs, and heavy metals were detected onsite. The General Services Administration (GSA) owned and operated its portion of the facility since 1963. The Southeast Federal Center (SEFC) project and the Washington Navy Yard project had similar contaminants and similar environmental justice concerns. Both the Washington Navy Yard and the SEFC projects planned to assess the risks of the contaminants to the environment and to the local community. SEFC began initial investigation and remedial activities.

Completed Milestones

9/98	Completed negotiations for issuance of RCRA 3013 order.
11/98	Reviewed RCRA facility investigation workplan.
7/99	Completed negotiations for issuance of RCRA 3013 order.
11/99	Reviewed RCRA facility investigation workplan.
12/99	Completed interim measures.

Contact

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Region 7

Region 7 continued to encourage the formation of Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs) at each federal facility. EPA regularly participated in RAB meetings at these sites to facilitate community outreach, education, and participation in the cleanup process. Before the establishment of RABs at each site, community participation was nearly non-existent. Now 15-20 community members meet monthly or semi-monthly. EPA's participation in and commitment to the RABs at these sites has increased community awareness about the decision-making process. The RAB process also has increased the community's confidence that regulatory decisions are consistent with community desires.

Completed Milestones

12/96 - 8/97 Established five RABs.

Contact

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Action Item

Ensure meaningful participation by the full range of stakeholders, particularly communities of color and low-income communities, in the cleanup process

Federal Facilities Restoration and Reuse Office

EPA's environmental justice support to other federal agencies helped these agencies focus their public outreach efforts to serve their communities more equitably. EPA and DoD issued joint guidelines for establishing Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs) on September 27, 1994. During environmental restoration efforts at military installations, RABs provided frameworks for partnerships among installation representatives, regulatory agencies, communities, and other stakeholders. These partnerships increased the efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and focus of the restoration efforts.

DoD policy required the establishment of RABs at all closing installations and at non-closing installations where local communities express interest or concern. As of September 30, 1997, more than 270 installations in the United States and its territories participated in RABs. RAB members reflected the diverse interests within local communities. RABs also facilitated the flow of information in affected communities. Through its Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) program, EPA provided funds to community groups focused on increasing community involvement. As of September 30, 1997, TAGs were awarded at 32 federal facilities.

EPA also worked with the Department of Energy (DOE) to ensure that environmental justice issues were addressed by the Site-Specific Advisory Boards (SSABs). Similar to the DoD RABs, SSABs encouraged stakeholder involvement in the cleanup decision-making process. SSAB members represented residents. These representatives were from surrounding communities, local industries, environmental groups, Indian tribes, local government, state agencies, and federal agencies. Currently, SSABs exist at 12 DOE sites.

Contact

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Action Item

Encourage decision-making processes that harness and build upon local and indigenous leadership and expertise

Region 10

As an ongoing effort under EPA's trust obligations, Region 10 involved tribes in decision making and oversight at the cleanup of DOE's Hanford site. Special efforts were made to respond to tribal input, and the input has shaped the Hanford cleanup program. EPA's Hanford Project Office issued fact sheets, supported the Hanford Advisory Board (stakeholder, citizen, and tribal representation), issued press releases, and worked with DOE on four information repositories.

A document was issued about Hanford contamination in the Columbia River. This document was produced by a team of representatives from EPA, DOE, the states of Oregon and Washington, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Yakama Indian

Nation, and the Nez Perce Tribe. The tribes participated in budget prioritization discussions with DOE; they also participated in the Hanford Advisory Board, the Natural Resource Trustee council, and the Cultural Resources Board.

Contact

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Emergency Planning, Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA)

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Incorporate environmental justice criteria into inspection targeting strategy and enforcement.	132
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Topic Area: **Emergency Planning, Community Right-To-Know Act**

Action Item

Incorporate environmental justice criteria into inspection targeting strategy and enforcement

Region 3

The main goal of the EPCRA Section 313 Compliance Program is to help ensure that the Toxic Chemical Release Inventory System is complete and accurate by encouraging nonreporters and inaccurate reporters to comply in the future. The EPCRA Section 313 Enforcement Program has been focusing its efforts toward identifying non-reporters, late reporters, and inaccurate reporters for the time frame encompassing the three most recent reporting years. Emphasis was put on inspecting facilities in counties with high densities of potentially vulnerable population groups.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 Performed 10 inspections in low income and/or minority areas in Philadelphia, PA
 Issued three civil complaints to facilities located in these areas.
- FY98 Performed approximately 10 inspections in low income and/or minority areas in
 Erie and Bethlehem, PA . Issued four civil complaints to facilities located in these
 areas.

Contact

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Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

Action Items:

Ensure the consideration of Environmental Justice in FIFRA enforcement activities.	134
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Develop Program-specific and community/minority specific outreach strategies.	135
Region 3	135

Topic Area: Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

Action Item

Ensure the consideration of Environmental Justice in FIFRA enforcement activities

Region 3

The Region 3 Fiscal Years 1997-2001 Pesticides Regional Grant Guidance incorporates environmental justice language that promotes Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Virginia and the District of Columbia to superimpose environmental justice principles in targeting enforcement/compliance activity, particularly as it relates to the Worker Protection Standard.

Completed Milestones

- FY96 Developed Regional Grant Guidance that incorporates environmental justice into Regional priorities
- FY97 Awarded grants to states incorporating environmental justice principles into their workplans.
- FY98 Awarded state grants, all of which incorporated environmental justice concepts into their performance priorities, with special emphasis on worker protection.

Contact

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In implementing the Worker Protection Standard, Region 3's states have made partnerships with non-traditional organizations or pursued agriculture health education projects of direct benefit to the agricultural worker population.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA), as well as the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS), contracted with Telemor Corporation to sponsor Americorp volunteers. The Americorp volunteers provided pesticide safety training to 1,891 agricultural workers.
- FY97 The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture continued its participation in the Pennsylvania Agromedicine Program; a program that, among other things, has generated worker safety outreach materials, such as the video titled, "Worker Protection Down on the Farm". During FY 1997, the Agromedicine Program provided health care providers that interface with the agriculture community with training opportunities on recognition and management of pesticide poisoning.
- FY 98 The Pennsylvania and West Virginia Departments of Agriculture continue to implement agro-medicine programs in their respective states. These programs have a specific worker protection component through education and promotion of

pesticide related health issues that impact workers and others involved in agriculture.

Contact

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Action Item

Develop Program-specific and community/minority specific outreach strategies

Region 3

Region 3 initiated efforts to meet with agricultural workers protected under the 1992 Worker Protection Standard (WPS) to provide and clarify information on their rights under the standard, to provide guidance on how to initiate a complaint to the appropriate authority should occupational pesticide exposure occur, and to solicit information from workers on their experiences, positive and or negative, with respect to the implementation of Worker Protection provisions in the field. On April 1, 1997, Region 3 met with mushroom workers from the Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, area and worker advocate representatives to discuss WPS issues of concern to this population of workers.

Completed Milestones

- FY 97 Met with Pennsylvania Mushroom workers to clarify provisions of the standard and its complaint process. Region 3 obtained valuable insight from mushroom workers on WPD concerns.
- FY 98 Initiated discussions with the Pesticides Control Program, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy (NJDEPE), to explore the possibilities of conducting, in partnership, WPS outreach to educate labor contractors operating across the Pennsylvania-New Jersey state line. The desired outcome of this outreach was to educate labor contractors on the WPS regulation to ensure that they are aware of and understand their role and responsibilities under the regulation and can more effectively protect agricultural workers from occupational exposure to pesticides. A definitive strategy has not been developed. However, options are being explored.

Contact

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Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

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Outreach and education on lead-based paint poisoning prevention.	137
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Topic Area: Toxic Substances Control Act

Action Item

Outreach and education on lead-based paint poisoning prevention

Region 3

Region 3 awarded environmental justice grants to two local groups: the Tinbridge Hill Neighborhood Council in Lynchburg, Virginia, and the African American Men on a Mission in Baltimore, Maryland. These local groups developed activities to promote awareness among their communities on the dangers of lead-based paint. Both groups provided opportunities to young adults to get training and education on lead poisoning prevention. During the project period the groups helped distribute cleaning kits and teach local neighborhoods how to improve their cleaning methods.

Completed Milestones

- FY97 Prepared cleaning kits for the communities.
- FY97 Developed a local video program for education on cleaning techniques and methods.
- FY97 Provided free lead screening services.
- FY97 Provided lead dust reductions cleaning instructions sessions.

Contact

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